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A Weekly Journal of the Chemical and Drug Trades
and of
British Pharmacists throughout the Empire,
ESTABLISHED 1859.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is the leading journal addressing the chemical and drug trades of the British Empire. It is adopted as an official journal by nineteen Chemists' Societies in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa and the West Indies, and its paid-in-advance circulation in Great Britain and all Countries having business relations with the British Empire is intrinsically and numerically unique.

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Summary of this Issue.

The more notable items only are dealt with.

National Insurance Bill.

"Chemists must fight for themselves." We said so last week, and repeat it after hearing and considering what Mr. Lloyd George said. He says the same.

Amendments to the Bill are accumulating. One of them is to restrict dispensing to qualified pharmacists (p. 39).

The official report of the pharmaceutical deputation with the seven subjects for amendment is on p. 39.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer consulted THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of May 27 during the interview. See p. 59.

We give pertinent extracts from his speeches to medical men. Several important principles were admitted or laid down therein (p. 40).

Mr. Duke, K.C., M.P., gave good advice to Exeter chemists in an interview reported on p. 41.

The Committee stage will be reached in about five weeks. Then will come the real tussle.

Copies of letters by Highgate and Hove chemists to the Chancellor and M.P.s are printed on p. 43 as fair examples for others to follow.

We again report many chemists' meetings in the provinces. Mr. Rutherford Hill is leading a special campaign in Scotland (pp. 43-45 and *Coloured Supplement*).

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain discussed the matter fully on Wednesday, Mr. C. B. Allen, the new President, speaking hopefully of the Chancellor's reception last week (p. 56).

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland is to arrange a deputation representing the whole country to interview Sir Henry Robinson, Vice-President of the Irish Local Government Board (p. 49).

"Waiting for the Plan of Campaign" is the subject of our editorial. There is time for deliberation. The fight must be well organised and directed to a common purpose; free fighting and the diversion of power in directions which will not result in gain will be bad for everybody (p. 48).

Articles and News.

Another buchu is described and illustrated on p. 49.

An International Association of Chemical Societies has been formed (p. 26).

The blooming of peonies has induced an interesting note by Xrayser H. on p. 47.

Interesting facts regarding cobalt and nickel haloid salts have been discovered by Glasgow chemists (p. 36).

Mr. Thomas Mason, of Nottingham, the pharmacist who devised the well-known extract of herbs, is dead; so is Mr. R. Hayton Davis, of Harrogate (p. 54).

The constituents of *Buphane disticha* have been isolated by Mr. Frank Tutin. It contains an alkaloid resembling hyosine in action (p. 51).

We give a selection from our correspondence, space preventing insertion of all the letters we have received regarding the National Insurance Bill and other topics (p. 62).

The Edmonton County Court Judge is doubtful if belladonna-plasters are really scheduled as poison in Great Britain, but he fined an unregistered retailer for selling one (p. 52).

The new officers of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain are Mr. C. B. Allen, President, and Mr. A. J. Chater, Assistant-Secretary. The other officers were reappointed on Wednesday. See our report on p. 55, and the notes on the President (p. 58).

Trade and Market Matters.

Further incidents leading up to the present position of cod-liver oil are referred to on p. 60.

A well-informed American correspondent sends us some information in regard to the market for bromides (p. 50).

This being a broken week on the market, there is a quiet tone all round. The hot weather has created considerable demand for mineral-water-making materials, like lemon-oil and tartaric acid, which are both firm. Bergamot oil is again dearer, and lemongrass is scarce. Quicksilver (seconds) is steadier; copper sulphate, ammonia sulphate, shellac, and Japanese peppermint oil are on the easier side (p. 59).

B

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ENGLISH AND WELSH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Mr. Wm. Mann, chemist and druggist, of Pier Avenue, Clacton-on-Sea, has just completed extensive improvements to his pharmacy.

An exhibition of photographs of Mr. Demachy by the oil-transfer process is being held at the Royal Photographic Society's House, 35 Russell Square, London, W.C.

Mr. F. G. De Faye, chemist and Eau de Cologne manufacturer, St. Heliers, Jersey, has received a Royal Warrant of Appointment from her Majesty Queen Mary for perfumery.

We are informed that "The Times" *In Memoriam* note relative to the late Michael Carteighe, and quoted in this column last week, was inserted by Mr. John Carteighe and his wife, Mrs. Constance Carteighe.

Mr. Harry Wovendon, son of Mr. Henry Wovendon, chemist and druggist, School Road, Sale, Cheshire, who died recently after an operation for appendicitis, was thirty-two years old, and had only been married three weeks.

A fire broke out at the "Bouchon" Works, 15 to 17 Farrance Street, Limehouse, London, E., of Messrs. N. W. Mitchell & Sons, Ltd., cork manufacturers. The damage was confined to an unimportant corner of the premises, and will cause no delay in the execution of orders.

A fire, caused by the fusion of an electric wire igniting gas, occurred in the basement of the premises of Jeyes & Co., Ltd., chemists, 6 The Drapery, Northampton, on June 4. The outbreak was fortunately subdued before the flames reached the stock of chemicals stored in the cellar.

An evening concert held at Mitcham in connection with the Ravenspring Football Club (formed by the employés of the Mitcham branch of Camwal, Ltd.), in aid of the club's funds, was a great success, there being a good credit balance after paying all expenses. The programme contained twenty-nine items.

On Whit Monday the fifth annual parade instituted by the Commercial Motor Users' Association took place at Earl's Court. So numerous were the entries that it was found necessary to marshal the cars outside the exhibition grounds, in fifteen streets off Lillie Road. Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. showed four motor vehicles, varying in weight-carrying capacity from one to five tons, and secured a prize for each of them.

At the weekly meeting of the Cheltenham Guardians it was reported that the Dispensary Committee had resolved that application should be made to the Local Government Board to sanction the supply of medicines to the indoor officers, and that an allowance of 5*l.* be made for dispensing on condition that the dispenser keeps a record. The report was referred back, objections being raised that the dispenser is already paid for the work. Mr. Steel asked how much salary is paid to the dispenser. The Chairman: 100*l.* Mr. Steel: Plenty of money, too.

The Manchester employés of Messrs. Potter & Clarke, Ltd., were entertained to high tea at the Exchange Hotel, Manchester, on May 30, by Mr. W. Thomas, senior Lancashire representative, in celebration of the completion of twenty-five years' connection with the firm. The company included Mrs. Thomas, Mr. R. C. Wren (director), Mr. E. Walters, and Mr. J. Power. Mr. Wren, in proposing the health of Mr. Thomas, in a particularly happy speech dwelt on the cordial relations existing between Mr. Thomas, the firm, and customers, and bore tribute to the unflinching energy and assiduity shown in the discharge of his duties. Mr. Thomas, in replying, drew attention to the great development of the firm during the last twenty-five years. A handsome smoking-cabinet was presented to Mr. Thomas by the Manchester staff as a token of their esteem, and an enjoyable social evening was spent afterwards.

Poison-liences.

The following local authorities have renewed poison-liences to the number given in parentheses:

Devon County Council (ten).

Exeter City Council (one). The Town Clerk is to be authorised to renew existing licences, on application, for a fee of 1*s.* 6*d.* each.

Winchester Town Council (three).

Harrogate Chemists' Outing.

The members of the Harrogate Pharmaceutical Association with their friends had an outing on June 5 to Middlesmoor. The party went by train to Pateley Bridge and thence to Lofthouse. A picnic lunch, ramble in the gorge, and visit to the caves preceded a climb up the hill to the Crown Hotel, Middlesmoor, where tea was taken and much appreciated. The President (Mr. George Pattison) took a photograph of the group after tea.

Radiotelegraphy.

Mr. G. Marconi lectured at the Royal Institution, London, W., on June 2, on radiotelegraphy. He dealt with some of the phenomena encountered in practical work for which no clear explanation is as yet forthcoming. Why, for example, is the distance covered by short electric waves much longer at night than during the day; why is the north and south direction more favourable for transmission than east to west; and why should mountains and land generally obstruct short waves when sunlight is present, and offer no obstruction during the hours of darkness? Mr. Marconi outlined the steps in the advances that have been made in radiotelegraphy, and described experimentally the disc-discharge method of transmitter which is now in use. The advantages of wireless telegraphy were again stated, and regret expressed that the receipt of messages during the lecture, with kites as the aerial, was prevented owing to the wind dropping.

The Opium Conference.

The Simla correspondent of "The Times" states that, "It is strongly felt that if America insists upon an opium conference at The Hague the question of the importation of cocaine and morphine into China will have to be thoroughly considered. India's sacrifice of opium revenue is useless unless the importation of these drugs is prohibited by agreement among the Treaty Powers. In parts of India like Bombay the cocaine habit is an increasing curse." We have already reported that it is practically certain that the International Opium Conference will not be held at The Hague this year owing to the objection of Germany and Portugal to include the question of cocaine and morphine in the scope of the international investigation, so that the above "Times" message, probably inspired, occasions no surprise. As a fact, Portugal derives a handsome revenue from the import duties (raised on several occasions) on such drugs sent to her colonies, principally Macao, China, which the republic, with its depleted coffers, does not wish to sacrifice.

Birmingham Notes.

An explosion of methylated spirit occurred at the rear of Mr. Perry's pharmacy, 171 Hagley Road, on June 2. A lad named Fowler, noticing a leakage from a cask of S.V.M., lighted a match, with the result that a fire occurred, which burned him so severely that he had to be detained at the Queen's Hospital.

The "Post" gave prominence in its London letter to Mr. Glyn-Jones's tour of investigation to Germany regarding matters pharmaceutical in connection with the National Insurance Bill. The note recalls the fact that pharmacy has not until now been directly represented at St. Stephen's since the days of Jacob Bell, who was for a time M.P. for St. Albans.

The terrific thunderstorms which have lately occurred in the district have resulted in the death by lightning of a great number of cattle. In an article in the "Mail" it was stated that "Mr. Attfield, Professor of Chemistry to the Pharmaceutical Society, has pointed out that such cattle need not as is usual be buried, for if bled immediately there could not be the slightest objection to their being eaten."

Contracts.

Wimbledon Town Council.—Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., for supply of chloride of lime, at 2*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* per ton.

Dartford Urban Council.—Adecocks' for soluble purifier at 7½d. per gal.; United Alkali Co., Ltd., for chloride of lime, at 6l. 7s. 6d. per ton.

Paddington Guardians.—For annual supplies at estimated costs: T. Hodgkinson, Prestons & King for drugs (indoor) at 325l. 18s. 1d. and (outdoor) at 72l. 1s. 3d.; D. & W. Gibbs, Ltd., for soap at 393l. 6s. 10d.

Romford Urban Council.—Mr. J. W. Lasham, Ph.C., Romford, for disinfecting powder (15 per cent. carbolic acid), at 2l. 10s. per ton; sanitary fluid, 2s. 1d. per gal.; carbolic soap, 19s. 6d. per cwt.; and Kingzett's sulphur candles (1 lb.), 3s. 6d. per dozen.

The Isle of Wight Joint Hospital Board on May 30 considered a recommendation that a supply of drugs and instruments for the new hospital should be obtained from chemists at Newport, subject to prices being in accordance with Allen & Hanbury's wholesale list. Mr. J. C. Millgate urged that tenders be invited, but it was explained that the drugs were wanted without further delay, and that the board would be amply protected by the wholesale price-list. The total cost of the supply required was about 28l. The recommendation was adopted.

From Various Courts.

At Maryport on June 2, James Howard, jun., dealer, Workington, was fined 1l. for obtaining a rubber water-bed by false pretences from Mr. Wm. Spark, chemist and druggist, 86 Crosby Street, Maryport.

At Woking last week, two soldiers named Joseph Lamb and James Sully were fined 1l. and ordered to pay the damage done to a show-case at the local branch of the Timothy White Co., Ltd., which the men smashed with their canes.

At Romford on June 1, two boys named Joseph Peacock and Alfred Cullum were sent to an Industrial School for stealing soap and a bottle of eucalyptus (value 2s. 6d.) from the pharmacy of Mr. Wm. S. Steeples, chemist, 28 Market Place, Romford.

At Retford on June 1, the British Oil and Cake Mills, Ltd., of Hull, and 29 Great St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, London, were fined 5l., and 14l. 5s. 6d. costs, under the Fertiliser and Feeding-stuffs Act for selling linseed-cake containing water to the extent of 16.15 per cent., and which was not disclosed at the time of the sale.

At Hereford on May 27, Horatio C. Furness, trading as the North Bristol Manure Co., 17 South Castle Street, Liverpool, was fined 20l., and costs, under the Fertiliser and Feeding-stuffs Act for an invoice offence respecting an artificial manure sold at 3l. 10s. per ton which was found to have a deficiency of potash. Its value was stated to be 1l. 15s. per ton. The defence was that chemical reversion had taken place and soluble phosphates converted into insoluble phosphates.

"It is a wrong thing to ask a chemist to prescribe medicine," said Mr. J. Troutbeck at a Battersea inquest on June 6. "It is not the business of a chemist to give medical advice. The temptation is very great among poor people, but it is extremely dangerous and not fair to the chemist. It is curious there are people who would not consult an architect about building a railway, but who consult a chemist about their own health when they know he has no training."

At the Stratford Police Court on June 3, Alfred Clayton (30), commission agent, Walthamstow, was remanded on a charge of being in the unlawful possession of three bottles of cod-liver oil and malt and a bottle of fruit salts. The prisoner called George Cowland, described as a druggist's assistant, of Walthamstow, who said that he sold the bottles to the prisoner for 5s. The witness said that he had bought the articles at a stall in Shoreditch for 5s. 3d. in November last.

An inquiry was held by the Manchester City Coroner on June 7, into the death of Mr. Henry John Major, aged fifty-three, lately in business as a chemist in Blossom Street, Manchester. It appeared that on April 18, Mr. Major, in passing along Back George Street, a narrow thoroughfare in the centre of the city, stooped in order to get under a gantry that was projecting from one of the warehouses on to a lorry. He struck an iron nut in the

gantry, which caused a deep wound in his head. The wound was dressed at the Old Infirmary, but on April 28 he had to be removed to Monsall Hospital, where he died last Monday. Dr. Rogan certified that the cause of death was meningitis, directly due to the injury to the scalp. A verdict of accidental death was returned.

An inquiry was held at the Manchester City Coroner's Court on June 2 into the death of a young woman named Annie Coates, who died after a dental operation alleged to have been performed by Arthur O. Balshaw, of the Drug Stores, 484 Rochdale Road. The evidence showed that deceased just before Easter on returning home, after going to Mr. Balshaw to have some teeth extracted, told her mother that the teeth had not been drawn, but broken off. Later her face began to swell, and home remedies not proving successful, a doctor was called in about a fortnight ago, but the girl died on May 30. Mr. Balshaw deposed that he kept a drug-store in Rochdale Road, and resided in Alfred Street, Harpurhey. He had no qualification as a chemist or dentist, but had passed the Intermediate examination of the College of Surgeons, and had been a medical student at the Manchester Royal Infirmary for five years. He extracted teeth at his shop in Rochdale Road as part of the business, but he did not remember the girl Coates coming to him, nor had he ever broken off three teeth at one time. In answer to the Coroner, the witness said that sometimes he did break off a tooth, and the stump would have to remain unless the person was willing to undergo an operation by gas. He did not, however, administer gas. The Coroner: So that when a tooth is broken, and it requires gas to get the stump out, you don't do it?—No, sir. Witness added that he had been extracting teeth for quite twenty years, and it was his custom to sterilise the instruments by pouring boiling water over them. Dr. Heslop, who made a *post-mortem* examination of the body, said he found traces of broken teeth. Their edges were, however, much smoother than some of the other teeth in the mouth. The cause of death was septic pneumonia, set up by the general bad condition of the girl's teeth. The teeth were all very much decayed, and it was just as likely that the blood-poisoning arose from these as from the broken stumps. The Coroner said the case illustrated the importance of people having properly skilled advice in regard to their teeth and their extraction. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

IRISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Personal.

Mr. E. Whelan, Ph.C., Abbeyview Terrace, Rathkeal, has been appointed to the Commission of the Peace for the county of Limerick.

At a meeting of the Magherafelt Board of Guardians last week Mr. J. E. O'Neill, J.P., wholesale druggist, Maghera, was re-elected Charman of the Board.

Mr. D. W. Elliott, Ph.C., Shaftesbury Square, Belfast, was one of the speakers at the National Conference of Charity Organisation Societies in Belfast last week.

Mr. J. E. Connor, Ph.C., represented the Warrenpoint Technical Committee at the annual Congress of the Irish Technical Institute Association held in Manchester last week.

At the annual meeting of the Belfast Board of Guardians on June 5, Mr. D. W. Elliott, Ph.C., Shaftesbury Square, was unanimously elected Chairman of the Infirmary Committee.

Alderman J. C. McWalter, Ph.C., has been returned at the head of the poll as a member of the North Union Guardians (North City Ward), Dublin. At next Monday's meeting of the Dublin Corporation he is to deal with the National Insurance Bill.

Guardians' Affairs.

At the meeting of the Athy Guardians, Mr. John J. McHugh, Medical Hall, Athy, compounder to the Union,

applied for an increase of salary. Mr. McHugh has been acting as dispenser for eleven years at 50*l.* a year, but his predecessor had 65*l.* It was decided to consider the matter at a future meeting.

At the Trim Board of Guardians a tender was received from Messrs. Boileau & Boyd for the supply of medicines, etc., at 20 per cent. off the prescribed list. The Clerk said the firm had previously tendered at 33½ per cent. discount, but the tender was late, and the contract was then awarded to Messrs. Clarke & Co., who subsequently went into liquidation, with the result that the contract was cancelled. It was agreed to write to Messrs. Boileau & Boyd asking them to alter the tender to 30 per cent. discount.

The Antrim Board of Guardians had a long debate on June 1 over the application of their analyst, Mr. R. F. Blake, F.I.C., for an increase of salary. Mr. Blake has refused the increase already offered as being insufficient, and the Guardians have now resolved to let the matter stand over for the new Board, which comes into office shortly. With reference to Sir Chas. Cameron's account as analyst, outstanding against the Oldcastle Guardians, the Local Government Board has now intervened and written for information as to the amount due.

SCOTTISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Aberdeen.

The shop, 66 Holburn Street, lately vacated by Mr. D. S. Allan, chemist, who removed to 35 Holburn Street, is to be opened shortly by Mr. James McKenzie, chemist.

Edinburgh.

Chemists in Goldenacre and district, as in former years, are closing on Wednesday afternoons from 2 till 7 P.M. until the end of September.

The employés of Messrs. Harkness, Beaumont & Co. held their annual outing on Saturday, June 3. The party, forty-five in number, drove to Luffness, where an enjoyable day was spent.

There are signs that local chemists intend combining to make their influence felt in the modification of Mr. Lloyd George's insurance scheme. Some of the prospective beneficiaries must entertain a north-easterly regard for the Chancellor, too, if the note received by a local chemist the other day were really penned in a spirit somewhat resembling retaliation. "Harlech's Sweated Milk" ran the epistle.

The first botanical excursion of the season under the auspices of the Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association took place on the evening of June 2, when Inveresk was visited by a large party under the leadership of Mr. W. B. Cowie, Ph.C., F.C.S. The weather conditions were ideal and vegetation was well advanced, so that a most delightful and profitable evening was spent, many wild plants of pharmaceutical interest being collected.

The twentieth annual sports meeting of the Edinburgh Pharmacy Athletic Club, held in Edinburgh Marine Park, was favoured with good weather. Mr. J. L. Ewing presided, and Mrs. Ewing presented the prizes. The fair sex made a good muster on the grand stand, and the attendance round the ropes was fair. Dr. George Coull, Messrs. A. J. Dey, D. B. Dott, J. Rutherford Hill, and G. Somerville were judges; Mr. A. Bremner, starter; and Mr. George Hume held the watch. The secretarial arrangements were carried out by Mr. W. H. Chambers.

At the meeting of the Royal Society of Edinburgh on June 5, four papers were communicated by Professor A. Gray—viz., "The Absorption of Light by Aqueous Solutions of Inorganic Salts," viz.: (1) "Cobalt salts in the infra-red," by Dr. R. A. Houstoun; (2) "Cobalt salts in the visible spectrum," by Dr. Houstoun and Mr. A. R. Brown; (3) "Nickel salts in the visible spectrum and the infra-red," by Dr. Houstoun; (4) "Cobalt and nickel salts in the ultra-violet," by Dr. Houstoun and Mr. J. S. Anderson. These papers describe the first of a series of researches

which is being carried out in the Natural Philosophy Institute of the University of Glasgow. In the present research it has been found that the acid radicle of the haloid salts of cobalt and nickel have each a characteristic absorption band or bands unaffected by the metal present, and the two bands due to cobalt and the three characteristic of nickel are identical in all the compounds tested. The two intense bands in the ultra-violet spectrum of the iodides agree in position with those given by an aqueous solution of iodine itself, but their presence is not due to free iodine in the salts. Investigations were also made of the colour changes produced by concentration on the chlorides and bromides of the two metals, and it was found that the changes showed striking similarities. An abstract was also communicated of a paper by Professor A. Smith and Mr. A. W. C. Menzies on "The Vapour Pressure of Dry Calomel."

FRENCH NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

A FIRE due to a short circuit of electric wires occurred at a manufactory of medicated cotton-wool, owned by M. Collet, at Vincennes. The entire premises were burnt out, the damage being estimated at 8,000*l.*

HOMAGE TO M. GIRARD.—On the occasion of his resigning the functions of head chemist of the Paris Municipal Laboratory, which he had held with distinction for many years, M. Girard has been presented with a gold medal by the French Government, as a recognition of his services.

A COMPROMISING OVERSIGHT.—A pharmacy student, M. Paul Husson, residing in the Quartier Latin, Paris, had had some difficulty with the police owing to his having left a compromising anatomical specimen in a room when moving. Together with a medical student and another person, he figured as defendant in a police-court last week, but satisfactory explanations having been forthcoming, all three were acquitted.

NICOTINE IMPORTS.—The French Senate has been considering a proposal to modify the general tariff on imports of nicotine. During a recent discussion questions were asked as to the measures which the Government intend to take to provide the nicotine required for agricultural purposes, as the Dieppe Manufactory of Tobacco refuses to supply agriculturists with the tobacco-juice required. Further discussion of the manner in which nicotine is distributed in France was postponed till the consideration of the budget of the Minister of Finance.

EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY.—The first action of its kind under the French Employers' Liability Act was tried recently in Paris. It was a case of a pharmacists' assistant who had received an injury while engaged in his daily work. He had slipped while passing out to the yard at the back of the pharmacy and his right hand went through a glass door, the wrist being severely cut. The assistant thought he was permanently incapacitated, but this claim was disallowed, and the company with whom the pharmacist was insured offered the victim of the accident 234*l.* (9*l.* 5*s.*) as compensation. This sum was refused, and the case duly came before the Courts for judgment, when the assistant was awarded 596*l.* (or nearly 16*l.*). Apart from the question of the accident a point was raised as to the value of full board and lodging for the assistant, who was living in. The employer indicated 60*l.* (2*l.* 8*s.*) per month as his estimate, but the Judge gave 100*l.* (4*l.*) for the same period as his opinion of the average value.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHEMICAL SOCIETIES.—At a meeting held in Paris on April 25 and 26, and attended by representatives of the Chemical Societies of Paris, Berlin and London, an International Association of Chemical Societies was founded. The object of the new association is to secure international co-operation in dealing with important chemical questions. It proposes to proceed by holding conferences and congresses or by appointing special commissions of inquiry as occasion may require. The Council will consist of representatives of the three founder societies, and the nominations already made are Professors Ostwald, Jacobsen and Wichelhaus for

many, Sir W. Ramsay, K.C.B., and Professor P. F. Frankland for the United Kingdom, and Professors Behal, Haller and Hanriot for France. The officers of the Association will consist of a President, Vice-President and Secretary, and these will always be delegates of the same country. Professor Ostwald is the first President, and the next meeting of the Council will be held at Berlin on Tuesday, April 13, 1912. The Association is to be provided with funds by grants from the affiliated Societies, and these grants will be in proportion to the number of members of the Society in each case.

FANTASY OF A PHARMACIST.—M. Nicolas Narjoux, pharmacist at Saint Arnould, a modest village of 1,200 inhabitants, has, according to the depositions made by two local doctors before the Rambouillet Magistrates, a special and individual appreciation of the privileges of his profession. Dr. Camescasse deposed that, having prescribed three medicaments for a workman, the pharmacist delivered six, cheerily remarking, "I have added some of my own. You'll be cured ever so much quicker." The supplementary ingredients, the doctor discovered, were added to his prescription in M. Narjoux's own handwriting. An infusion of digitalis prescribed was executed in less time than it takes to relate the fact. "I keep a lot prepared beforehand," was the explanation, but the doctor declares that it was simply tincture of digitalis to which water had been added. Borax solution was substituted for lime-water for infantile maladies, etc. Then Dr. de Gèbert took up his parable, and said: "One of my clients, for whom I prescribed a dozen strychnine pills (1 milligram), received them unlabelled. Luckily his children, playing around, had not received the inspiration to taste these sweets. I told the Mayor and the gendarmes, and now the Magistrates have decided to summon Narjoux to explain matters."

AUSTRALASIAN NEWS.

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of nine Societies of Chemists in Australia and New Zealand, as well as to other Chemists in business there.

New South Wales.

SHERMAN'S RUPTURE CURE.—The prohibition against the importation of Sherman's Rupture Cure into New South Wales, which was issued under the powers conferred by the Food and Drugs Act, has been revoked.

New Zealand.

APPRENTICESHIP IN IRELAND.—H. B. Hornibrook (Rangataua) wrote to the Pharmacy Board asking if the apprenticeship course referred to in statutory declaration enclosed would be recognised by the Board. The form of declaration enclosed was made under the Pharmacy Act (Ireland), 1875, and addressed to the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, and stated that Mr. Hornibrook had completed a term of four years' service as apprentice to John Reid (licentiate apothecary), keeping open shop for the sale of poisons and compounding of medical prescriptions at Bandon, in Cork. After discussion as to whether service of a course of apprenticeship outside New Zealand could be accepted in New Zealand, the President moved that a reply be sent stating that the Board was unable to accept apprenticeship served in Ireland to a licentiate apothecary.

Queensland.

THE UNIVERSITY has obtained an increased Government subsidy of 2,500l. per annum upon the following conditions:

(1) That a correspondence study department for the guidance and direction of external students should be organised and placed under the control of a special officer.

(2) Instruction is to be given in the evening as well as during the day, and the Senate is to protect the interests of evening students and give them special facilities for gaining degrees, diplomas, and certificates of the University.

(3) That conditions in regard to external students should be fair and reasonable.

Victoria.

WOMEN STUDENTS.—Among the ladies now studying pharmacy are the daughter of the Premier of Victoria and the

daughter of the Chief Inspector of Factories, the latter being at the Melbourne United Friendly Societies' Dispensary, Bowen Street.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.—An extraordinary general meeting of the members was held on April 10 for the purpose of confirming the alterations in the Articles of Association which were carried at a special general meeting. The resolutions were carried relating to the form of undertaking which is to be signed by new members binding them to return their diplomas when they cease to subscribe to the Society. The resolution regarding the form of proxy for recording votes by post was rejected.

Western Australia.

A PHARMACIST M.P.—Mr. W. L. Thomas was elected to the Legislative Assembly at a by-election at Bunbury in March. Mr. Thomas is registered as a pharmacist, and has long been a worker in the Labour interest.

INDIA AND THE EAST.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondents.)

NEW DRUG BUSINESS.—The Agra Co-operative Stores, Agra, have recently opened a drug department.

ALLEGED OBSCENE PRICE-LISTS.—Messrs. Churchill & Co., manufacturing chemists, Bangalore, have been fined Rs. 5 under Sections 292 and 293 of the I. P. Code, for publishing medical price-lists alleged to be of an obscene character.

CONDENSED MILK.—Though there are many condensed milk factories in Japan, the resulting product is very poor; so much so that the annual imports reach 2,400,000 yen, of which about 52 per cent. is represented by the American "Eagle" brand, 25 per cent. by the English "Milkmaid" brand, and 14 per cent. by Nestlé's Swiss milk.

BUSINESS CHANGES.—The Philippine Drug Company has been formed in Manila, with a capital of about 50,000l., and will take over the local business of A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., Hong Kong. Messrs. Irwin Monro & Co., chemists and druggists, Bangalore, have opened a branch at Mysore, the capital of Mysore State, a town of 70,000 inhabitants.

PERSONAL.—Prof. K. Ishihara will represent the Tokyo Medical University at the International Hygienic Exposition at Dresden. He will remain in Germany for a year to investigate the hygiene of German educational institutes.—Prof. Otsuki, of the Osaka Higher Medical College, left for a European tour by the s.s. *Kamo Maru* on April 14. Representatives of various medical and pharmaceutical bodies bid him *bon voyage* at Kobe.

OLIVE-GROWING IN INDIA.—Five years ago it was suggested that an olive-growing industry might be started in India, and a Mr. F. J. Mitchell, of Srinagar, obtained the permission of the Kashmir Darbar to take the matter up. Later the Punjab Government made him a grant and gave him facilities for working the experiment. A report on the work has now been published, showing the progress made last year at the two Punjab nurseries at Khiri Murat and Sakesar. The experiments have been hampered by various unfortunate accidents. Seed-beds failed because the seed supplied was three years' old, cuttings were killed through being swamped in the monsoon, and eighty-five trees imported from Europe went astray *en route*, and their delivery was delayed for a fortnight. Nevertheless Mr. Mitchell appears to be full of optimism. The greatest difficulty which he foresees in the way of establishing a profitable industry is the long time which must elapse before returns can be realised on invested capital. He fears that if zemindars were to be in possession of suitable bearing trees they would be tempted to cut them down for timber. He therefore believes that it will be necessary to grant some form of monopoly to permit of the industry being established on a strong footing.

CHEMICAL products valued at 214,614l. were imported into Tampico during 1910, as compared with 228,423l. in 1909 and 270,913l. in 1908.

SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS.

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the seven Societies and Associations of Chemists in British South Africa, as well as to other chemists in business there.

The Union.

THE CHEMIST'S CAT.—There recently landed at Cape Town a young English chemist, his wife, and small family, which included a cat. The cat had no steamship ticket, so the steamship company requested a sum of 3*l.* odd. Having paid the ticket, it appears that the cat had not 20*l.* in its pocket, and thus had no visible means of subsistence, consequently the animal was impounded pending the Government officers passing it, which they eventually did. The cat is now a member of the Union of South Africa, and its papers are accordingly endorsed. What Mr. and Mrs. Chemist think of the whole business we are not in a position to say.

BUSINESS generally in Cape Town is somewhat dull, and the same applies to Johannesburg. According to the average opinion long credits and over-importations are responsible. The Golden City is likely to recover itself presently, but Cape Town will not. During the Parliamentary session Cape Town enjoyed a successful time, and, as usual, forgot that it could not continue. Business in Natal is reported as good, especially in Durban. Representatives of the following firms were in Cape Town when the mail left: C. J. Hewlett & Son, Ltd., Southall Bros. & Barclay, Ltd., Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Johnson & Johnson, and John Timpson & Co., Ltd.

Orange Free State.

O.F.S. MEDICAL AND PHARMACY COUNCIL.—At the meeting of the Council in the Board Room of the Public Health Department, at Bloemfontein, on May 12, there were present Drs. C. H. Bidwell, Usmar, Tomory, and Pretorius, and Messrs. Whiteside and Fowlie. Dr. Bidwell was elected to the chair, and on taking it he observed that the meeting was quite legal. It was reported that nominations for elective seats on the Council (three medical men and one chemist) had been sent in. It was decided that the Medical Register of the Orange Free State be sold at 5*s.* 6*d.* per copy, which the Secretary said is practically cost price. The Chairman raised the question of electing a President. He pointed out that the resignation of Mr. S. S. Hewitt (chemist member) could only be accepted by the President, and the matter could not be dealt with until a President had been nominated. Business would also be crippled, as the President only was empowered to draw cheques, and emergency meetings could only be called by the President. On it being suggested that a President be elected and that he resign if the new Councillors object, it was pointed out that the President could not resign unless he left the Council altogether. A motion by Dr. Usmar that a chairman be appointed for each meeting until a full meeting be obtained was carried by three votes to two (Dr. Tomory and Mr. Fowlie). Dr. Tomory moved an amendment that the election of a President be proceeded with, but failed to find a seconder. Dr. Usmar then desired to know why the registrations approved by Dr. Bidwell were down on the agenda for confirmation since the Registrar knew that the former procedure was illegal, and contended that the registrations should date from that day (May 12). Mr. Streeten said that the registrations were made at the instance of the Minister for the Interior. His position was at that time that he was a servant of the Council, or rather nobody's servant, for there was no Council existing, and although acting on the instructions of the Minister for the Interior he (the Secretary) felt that he was being directed to do an illegal act. The Chairman pointed out that if the registrations were not confirmed, the medical practitioners concerned could not sue for fees. A motion by Dr. Pretorius, that the registrations be confirmed, was put and carried, Dr. Bidwell, Dr. Pretorius, and Mr. Fowlie voting for it. Dr. Tomory did not vote, and Dr. Usmar and Mr. Whiteside voted against it. The two latter gentlemen requested that their protests be recorded.

Dr. Usmar intimated that he would move at the next meeting for certain alterations to the present Act.

Transvaal.

PERSONAL.—Mr. W. C. Taylor, formerly with Messrs. Allen & Hanburys, Africa, Ltd., has joined the staff of Messrs. Lennon, Ltd., at Johannesburg.

BUSINESS during the past week, says our Johannesburg correspondent writing on May 15, has been very bad. In the early part it rained for several days, while the tramwaymen's strike has been responsible for nothing being done during the last few days.

LABELLING ESSENCES.—In Court "C," Johannesburg, last month, Mr. James H. Dinwoodie, chemist, was charged at the instance of Detective J. W. Peck with having in his possession certain essences labelled "Bedlington Bros., Ltd., London, England. Eight gold medals," whereas the contents were prepared locally, thereby giving a false trade-description of the article. Ernest Edward Maguinitz, Assistant Inspector of Customs, stated that he found the bottles and contents produced on Mr. Dinwoodie's premises. The price at which the essences were sold was cheaper than defendant could have imported them. Defendant told witness that he had imported the essences in ounce bottles and not in bulk. There was, as far as witness knew, no such firm as Bedlington Bros., Ltd., London, England, in existence. Defendant had given witness all the information possible. After other evidence the magistrate found the defendant not guilty.

Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING was held in the general offices, Mercantile Buildings, Hout Street, Cape Town, the President (Mr. W. Froemoling, Ph.D.) being in the chair. Among others present were Messrs. J. Austin Thomas and A. E. A. Tothill (Vice-Presidents), G. R. Cleghorn (member of the Colonial Pharmacy Board), W. A. Sleggs (Hazell & Son), J. Sowden (Rondebosch), W. E. Crow (Sea Point), H. R. Peck, W. Fick, J. James, J. R. Loxton, and H. C. Marcus (Hon. Secretary). Mr. Sleggs read a paper entitled

DISPENSING CONTRACT AND SWEATED CHEMISTS.

He dealt mainly with "club prescriptions" and the low rates at which these were dispensed, and considered that the sum of 9*d.* was absurd. This is the second time that Mr. Sleggs has been called upon to handle the subject at meetings of the Society, and it would appear that he has studied the question closely. The outcome of Mr. Sleggs' talks is that a committee is to be formed to try to remedy matters. Mr. Fick congratulated the author of the paper, but pointed out that they wanted a remedy. He did not think they should go beyond a shilling for an ordinary mixture. Mr. Tothill said that fifteen years back he had a number of clubs, but now he only had one. Mr. Loxton did not consider that they, as chemists, were professional men, but commercial men. He would not handle the club prescriptions at 9*d.* Messrs. Sowden, James, and Thomas discussed the situation at some length, and, as previously stated, a committee has been formed to get the trade to agree to advance prices to a reasonable rate.

EXAMINATIONS.—The President informed the meeting that the Colonial Pharmacy Board had had an examination that day, and out of five candidates three had "passed," and among these were Mr. J. Dell, their former secretary.

CANADIAN NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondent.)

MONTREAL COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—At a recent meeting the following were elected to life-membership in recognition of their valuable contributions to pharmaceutical education: Messrs. Theo. H. Wardleworth, F.L.S., D. W. Bole, Chas. W. Tinning, H. H. Lyman, and A. Lyman.

N.D.C.—The annual conferences of the managers of the National Drug and Chemical Company of Canada, Ltd., were held in Montreal from May 9 to May 13 inclusive. Managers from all parts of the Dominion were present, and all spoke encouragingly of the business prospects. A banquet was held at the Royal Montreal Hunt Club on May 11, twenty-nine sitting down to dinner.

NATIONAL INSURANCE BILL.

More Facts and Statements.

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer, accompanied by the Master of Elibank, M.P., the Chief Ministerial Whip, left London at the end of last week for a motoring tour in the North of France, but will, it is understood, return to London before this issue is published, in order to fulfil certain engagements which he has entered into in connection with the National Insurance Bill and other matters. Already the work which has been entailed in connection with the vast correspondence arising out of the more controversial of the Chancellor's proposals is altogether phenomenal, and the private secretaries of the right hon. gentleman and the departmental officials who are more immediately concerned with the preparation of the scheme are working at high pressure in order to cope with the mass of letters which continue to arrive at the Treasury each day, in addition to the huge array of Parliamentary interrogatories which have to be carefully written by the Treasury officials for the benefit of inquiring members.

Requests for personal interviews from those whose interests will, it is believed, be affected by the Bill continue to be received at the Treasury, and among those who hope to be able to lay their case before the Chancellor of the Exchequer are the British Hospitals Association and the Federation of Grocers' Associations. In the meantime no fewer than twenty pages of amendments have already been placed on the Order Paper, in view of the Committee stage of the Bill, which will be taken after the Coronation. In Clause 3 Lord Henry Bentinck proposes to add after "medicines," "surgical instruments, spectacles, and other necessary appliances." Mr. Arthur Henderson and Mr. Tyson Wilson would only seek to add the word "appliances"; whilst in Clause 14 Lord Henry Bentinck seeks to make the same amendment, and Mr. Gibbs proposes to add after the word "persons," in page 14, line 39, the words, "by an arrangement with properly qualified practising pharmacists."

On Wednesday, June 14, Mr. Edmund Harvey will move for a return showing the scale of remuneration paid to medical officers for attendance upon postal and telephone officials of all kinds in London and other large towns, and also in the smaller towns and rural areas, the special rate, if any, which is paid for official examinations, and the scale of pay in cases including the cost of drugs. The hon. member will move for a similar return in regard to the Police, and for a statement of cases where the payment includes drugs, where the rates vary with the grade of the official, and where a special rate, if any, is paid for the official examination of the staff.

PHARMACEUTICAL DEPUTATION TO THE CHANCELLOR.

A deputation organised by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain was received by Mr. Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the Minister's private room at the House of Commons on June 1. The deputation consisted of:

J. E. Harrington, Kensington, President P.S.G.B.
J. R. Young, J.P., Warrington, representing Lancashire and Yorkshire, Past-President of P.S.G.B.
G. B. Allen, Kilburn, Past-Vice-President P.S.G.B.
Edmund White, London, member of Council of P.S.G.B.
R. Bremridge, Secretary P.S.G.B.
A. J. Chater, Assistant Secretary P.S.G.B.
J. Rutherford Hill, Edinburgh, Assistant Secretary for Scotland.
Dr. Walsh, Past-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.
D. M. Watson, Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.
A. Milne, Nottingham, representing the Drug Companies' Association.
W. Johnston, London, representing the Chemists' Defence Association.
G. Hampton, President of the Leicester and Leicestershire Chemists' Association.
John Humphrey, Editor of the "Pharmaceutical Journal."

Peter MacEwan, Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.
W. P. Want, Editor of the "British and Colonial Druggist."

Mr. Glyn-Jones, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, introduced the deputation, and Mr. J. R. Young epitomised the opinions that had been expressed by chemists and druggists in regard to the provisions of the National Insurance Bill.

Mr. Glyn-Jones followed, and on behalf of the deputation urged:

(a) That the dispensing contemplated under the Bill should be done under the direct supervision of a pharmacist.

(b) That no agreement for the supply of medicines for insured persons should be made except with a person, firm, or corporate body entitled to carry on the statutory business of a pharmaceutical chemist or a chemist and druggist in conformity with the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908.

(c) That the control of medical and pharmaceutical services to insured persons be in the hands of the health committees (subject to regulations passed by the Commissions), and not under the control of friendly societies.

(d) That pharmacy should be represented on the health committees and on the Advisory Committee or the Insurance Commission.

(e) That remuneration should be by a scale system, and not upon a *per capita* basis.

(f) That a panel of all qualified pharmacists in a particular district willing to arrange for the supply of medicines to insured persons at the scale rate should be set up, so that the insured person could, within the limits of the panel, choose his own pharmacist.

(g) That pharmaceutical benefits should not be extended to persons earning more than, say, 160*l.* per annum.

Dr. Walsh, on behalf of the Irish Society, pointed out certain anomalies in regard to Ireland, but the Chancellor asked that direct representation to the Irish Office might be made in regard to the purely Irish aspect of the case.

The Chancellor, having expressed the opinion that the Bill would generally improve the position of pharmacists, promised in sympathetic language to consider carefully the representations that had been made to him, and asked that the information which the Pharmaceutical Society was collecting might be made available for his guidance. He specially commended the Continental Commission of Inquiry which was being undertaken by Mr. Glyn-Jones at the request of the Pharmaceutical Society, and expressed the conviction—derived from personal experience of his pertinacity—that with such a Parliamentary representative the pharmacists of the country might feel assured that their interests would be quite efficiently safeguarded.

The President of the Society (Mr. Harrington) thanked the Chancellor for his courteous reception, and the deputation withdrew.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE AND MEDICAL MEN.

Earlier in the day Mr. Lloyd George attended a special representative meeting of the British Medical Association held in the Examination Hall of the Royal Colleges, Victoria Embankment, London, at which Dr. McLean presided. The meeting lasted two hours. The Chairman submitted questions from time to time, and Mr. Lloyd George replied to them after he had made general observations on the Bill. The questions were in regard to the subjects here printed in italics, and we quote from the "British Medical Journal" portions that are equally pertinent to chemists:

Disciplinary powers: malingering.

Advisory Committee.

Administration of medical benefits.

Terms of agreement to be subject to sanction of Insurance Board.

Health Committees preferable to friendly societies.

The Chairman: Will the Chancellor support an amendment in the Bill to place the whole administration of medical benefits under the local health committees?

Mr. Lloyd George: Certainly. I said so. This is very important. It depends entirely upon the measure of support which you secure for me there. After all, the Government has to consider the interests of the whole Bill, which

must not be recklessly endangered; but the whole of my support will be for this.

Goodwill of practices.

Income limit.

Post Office contributors.

Bad debts.

The conditions of remuneration.

Hospitals.

Mr. Lloyd George: If you are going to allow the patients an unlimited right to call the doctor in when the patient likes, and get his bottle of medicine, and that every bottle should be charged for and every attendance charged for, that would break down the scheme so hopelessly that it would be futile to proceed with it. Therefore, I would respectfully suggest to the meeting that it is far more important for them to fight out, not in the Bill, but afterwards with the Advisory Committee and the Insurance Commissioners the scale of the fee which should be allowed. We have left the question open to be discussed afterwards. You will be free to discuss different aspects of the matter with the Insurance Commissioners. . . . If you ask my opinion in advance, I think any attempt to demand payment on the number of attendances would break down. There are, I believe, one or two societies who carry on business on those lines, but they are generally in very healthy districts, or have more or less picked lives. To doctor the whole of the working classes on that basis would be, I believe, quite impracticable. That is my frank and sincere opinion.

The capitation fee and the club system.

Remuneration for special services.

The Chairman: Will the duties of medical practitioners under the contract be clearly defined and all extra service be paid for on an agreed scale?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: What do you call "extra"?

The Chairman: Such as operations, whether in an institution or not, consultations, night work, the administration of anaesthetics, and mileage. Those will, I think, be enough by way of illustration. Then there is the question of emergencies. Is the Chancellor willing to provide that emergencies of all kinds should be excluded from the medical attendance?

Mr. Lloyd George: Some of the questions descend into details which are very important and which will have to be considered, but upon which I should hesitate very much to express an opinion at this stage. Generally, I may say this: Of course, the payment of a specialist would not be included in the capitation fee, and, therefore, if there were consultations, they must necessarily be outside the range of whatever capitation grant is paid. . . . the society or the local health committee would have to pay that fee. Operations I should put in the same category. . . . I can well understand your charging in very special cases an extra fee. But there is real danger in allowing what is called "extras." . . . Mileage is an important thing, but I do not think there should be a fee for emergencies. After all, every illness is an emergency, and I think it would be better for you if you were to confine yourselves to those three or four really big burdens upon the profession—consultations, operations, and mileage.

A Voice: And night work.

Mr. Lloyd George: At the present moment night work, I believe, is included in the general contract fee. That is a matter I would rather not pronounce upon at the present moment. It is too big a thing to answer straight away. There will be nothing in the Act of Parliament to prevent your demanding a fee for night work. It will be a matter for arrangement after, but I do not express an opinion now.

Hospitals.

Sanatorium treatment.

Ireland.

The Chairman: Is it the intention to retain Ireland under the Bill? Are the funds for the administration of medical benefits under the National Insurance Bill to be equally and similarly applied in Ireland as in Great Britain, and will the representation of the medical profession on the local health committee be similar?

Mr. Lloyd George: Ireland has got special, I will not say difficulties, but special problems of its own. One thing I discovered when I first began to deal with the question was that in Ireland there was absolutely no objection in the rural districts on the part of the well-to-do people to apply for a red ticket and go to a parish doctor. In Ireland the problem is not to set up a separate independent medical attendance, but to pay the parish doctor more than he is getting now. That is one of the points. At any rate, we propose that the Irish question should be settled, as I should like to see many other Irish questions settled, by the Irishmen themselves. As far as I am concerned, I would rather

that the problems of Irish doctors be settled by the Irish doctors themselves. They understand them; I do not. I am told there are very different considerations applying. At any rate, the money would be there for them. ("The same money?") Yes, the same money. As to how it is distributed, they will have to fight that out themselves, but the medical profession will be represented. This is going to be an Imperial question. . . . You may depend upon it, the Insurance Commissioners will have the same concern to see that the medical profession is as well treated in Ireland as in other parts of the United Kingdom, and that will remain in spite of all or any contingency that may happen.

Objections to friendly society management.

The Chairman: The next question is one which is addressed to myself: "Why has the Chairman entirely omitted to announce our absolute refusal to accept friendly society management?"

Mr. Lloyd George: If by "friendly society management" is meant the absolute control by the friendly societies, that is at an end for ever under this Bill. At present the medical profession are left face to face with the friendly societies—there is no appeal; whereas in future the Insurance Commissioners stand between the medical profession and the friendly societies. The money is paid now to the friendly societies. In future the money will be paid to the Insurance Commissioners and the friendly societies simply get credit for it. We do not part with that cash except upon conditions which we regard as perfectly fair, not merely to the medical profession, but to the patient as well; what is still more important is this one great grievance against the friendly societies is that they now make a profit out of the doctor. They save the money that ought to go to pay the doctor for the purpose of increasing their benefits. That we will insist upon their not doing in future. In fact, that is the meaning of that clause. It will be part of our responsibility, part of our obligation and our duty under the statute, to see that the money which we intend should go for medical benefits shall go there, and shall not go into the pockets of the friendly societies for distribution or any other benefits.

The Chairman: Will dispensaries supported partly by endowment and partly by subscriptions be in any case taken over by approved societies?

Mr. Lloyd George: It is perfectly true that any body can form a registered society, but the medical benefit, whether it is of a dispensary association or any other association, would be subject to the control of the Insurance Commissioners, and subject to the conditions which they impose. The dispensary associations will have no more right to dispense medical benefit in their own way than any other associations in the kingdom. I want that to be clear. It has to be done under the directions of the Insurance Commissioners.

A GENERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

So many communications has the Chancellor received from the drug trade regarding the dispensing provisions that the following circular letter has been issued:

Treasury Chambers, Whitehall, S.W.,

June 2, 1911.

DEAR SIR.—In reply to your letter of the —, I am desired by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to say that the views of the chemists and druggists have been put before him by a representative deputation which he has recently received, introduced by Mr. Glyn-Jones, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society, and that the matter is receiving his careful consideration.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN ROWLAND.

BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE.

In anticipation of the joint meeting of the representatives of the Conference and of the British Medical Association on June 15, the Honorary Secretaries of the Conference have issued a circular letter to the secretaries of local chemists' associations asking for adherence to the claims which are covered, a, b, c, d, e, and f of the pharmaceutical deputation, so need not be repeated although the B.P.C. wording differs. The local associations are also asked:

(a) To influence our local members of Parliament to support amendments embodying the principles involved in the above claims.

(b) To confer with the medical men in our district and co-operate with them in obtaining concessions analogous in their profession to these points.

(c) To educate public opinion in these matters.

It is considered that the assistance of and co-operation with the British Medical Association will be of great assistance to chemists. It has been suggested that if the

Bill has not passed its third reading by the time the Conference meets in July at Portsmouth, a discussion upon the Bill should take place during the week.

MR. TOCHER AND THE CHANCELLOR.

We are indebted to Mr. J. F. Tocher, B.Sc., Ph.C., past-President of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, for copies of letters which have passed between him and Mr. Lloyd George on the position of medical practitioners and pharmacists under the Bill. On May 13 Mr. Tocher suggested "that the Government should settle by Act of Parliament in what manner medical practitioners and pharmacists are to be paid, otherwise the great abuses which at present exist with regard to medical attendance and medicine will continue and will probably increase." He again wrote a week later, and enclosed marked copies of three public addresses and papers relative to the subject. He received on May 25 the following reply:

Treasury Chambers, Whitehall, S.W.

May 25, 1911.

DEAR SIR,—I am desired by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, and to thank you for the enclosures.

Mr. Lloyd George wishes me to point out that the arrangements for medical attendance and treatment under the Bill will require to be made to the satisfaction of the Insurance Commissioners, and to state that he considers it undesirable to tie the hands of those Commissioners, of the societies, and of the whole medical profession, by any definite provisions being incorporated in the Bill.

The medical profession will be represented on the Advisory Committee set up under the Bill to help the Insurance Commissioners, and these Commissioners will be responsible through the Treasury to Parliament.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN ROWLAND.

J. F. Tocher, Esq., B.Sc., F.I.C.

Since then he has also received the general acknowledgment of his letters of May 20, such as we print under the Pharmaceutical Deputation report.

MR. DUKE, K.C., M.P., INTERVIEWED.

At Exeter on June 3, Mr. H. E. Duke, K.C., M.P., received a deputation from the Exeter Association of Pharmacists, consisting of Messrs. D. Reid (President), H. Gadd, J.P., P. F. Rowsell, J.P., H. Wippell Gadd, T. C. Milton, F. Sloman, E. F. Stone, F. W. Vinden, and J. Hinton Lake. The object of the deputation was to lay before Mr. Duke their views in regard to the Bill, and to ask his support for amendments which may be proposed on behalf of pharmacists. The President asked Mr. Wippell Gadd, F.C.S., barrister-at-law, to describe the position of pharmacists under the Bill. We append a summary of Mr. Gadd's statement, and an almost verbatim report of Mr. Duke's speech in reply.

Mr. Wippell Gadd said the measure does not specifically give pharmacists the dispensing of medicines, and he specially emphasised the possibility of dispensing being done by unqualified persons, and subject practically to no control at all. He objected to a *per capita* payment for medicines, and suggested that a schedule of prices should be laid down periodically, based upon the published market reports at which drugs were sold publicly, with a fair allowance for the expense of preparing, dividing, and distributing; and then, in addition to that, that there should be a small charge of something like 2d. and 3d. per bottle for the skilled work of compounding. In reply to Mr. Duke, he stated that in large industrial centres friendly societies have their own dispensaries, which are conducted nominally under the medical officers and often by unqualified dispensers, and there is no provision for inspecting the drugs.

Mr. P. F. Rowsell, Mr. H. Gadd, and Mr. Vinden also spoke.

Mr. Duke, in his reply, first spoke of the effects of the Bill generally, and stated that

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is very much like that of the doctors', adding that he was quite satisfied there is going to be a transformation of the idea of the Bill with respect to doctors. He was certain also that if it is not transformed it would never come into effective operation. With regard to pharmacists, he thought the question which really is at stake is whether they were ready to take up a communal treatment of the dispensing of drugs, or whether they were going to continue the old-fashioned English method of relying upon the individual, subjected to

proper safeguards in the interests of those who were to pay and those who were to receive. He should be opposed upon general grounds to anything in the nature of communal trading, so he was entirely in sympathy with the objects which brought the deputation there. The precise method by which it was to be carried out was a little difficult to see. The Bill was wholly a new departure. They were creating a national club, with a body of fourteen million members, and men who had been concerned in the administration of friendly societies and in the administration of sick relief naturally cast back to existing conditions in which a friendly society or an agency for sick relief had set up its own dispensing as inexpensive, of course, as possible. If they were going to bring into existence this huge society, in which probably a third of the nation were members and the whole of the nation were concerned either as members or paymasters, the great difficulty was to see how they were going to give them proper control collectively over the new provision which was being made without destroying the existing agencies. He believed the Bill, without the utmost care in administration and regulation, would destroy both the doctors and the pharmacists as individuals in the State. He believed the practice of medicine would be reduced to probably not more than half of the present body of practitioners, who would be medical men looking after the interests of the well-to-do in the community—the minority in the community—and he believed

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in a much greater proportion than was suggested now—one-third—because those of the community whose income was above 160*l.* a year were in a considerable minority. To his mind it was not thinkable that they should, by an act of legislation, strike down a large proportion of practitioners in a great profession, a necessary profession, or a majority or any considerable proportion of a body like their own, who had come into existence to supply the necessities of the community, and were supplying them. Mr. Wippell Gadd, in the clear statement of the objects in view with which he had favoured them, referred to some methods of dealing with this difficulty. He wished it laid down that dispensing should be through the channels provided by the Pharmacy Acts and by qualified pharmacists. He thought it would be a step backward if they were to put the supply of insured persons for the future on the footing of the supply which had been described where they had dispensaries without any supervision, and worked by unqualified persons. He did not think it could be done. The two alternatives seemed to be either to transfer the business of the supply of drugs, at any rate under the insurance scheme, to the community, or to take care that the terms of supply as between the insured and the pharmacist were such as would admit of the carrying on of the system upon a commercial basis. He saw difficulties in the way of even the second proposals. There was no great change carried out without involving great difficulties, but the first seemed to be ruled out by the conditions of our life. They should deliberately transfer their great interests in the community to the State. Mr. Wippell Gadd suggested that by means of a panel of pharmacists, and a schedule of charges, and a system of tickets, the pharmacist could be preserved from extinction. He believed when it came to be understood in the country that there was some possibility in one development of this scheme for communal trading in such matters as drugs the Bill would be resisted. Certainly he should resist it on grounds of general principle, quite apart from the grounds they were considering there to-day. So whatever proposals were made in the Committee on the Bill—which was likely to begin at about the middle of July and occupy very likely a couple of months—which would secure the safeguards desired and keep the body of pharmacists intact, would certainly have his support. He was not quite clear in his own mind as to the schedule of prices. One wanted to know what the experience had been about it.

Mr. H. Wippell Gadd said after Mr. Glyn-Jones came back from Germany they would get more information. The idea was to have a meeting when he came back to confer with him.

Mr. Duke said they must take care that there was fair play for every interest that came into consideration with respect to this Bill. They could not make this new departure irrespective of existing interests. Something had been said with respect to the mode in which the interests of the pharmacists as a body should be regulated. He should, of course, watch with very great care the question of the constitution of the central authority and of the health committees and any advisory committee. The position of the pharmacists with respect to these three matters was a very important one. He did not know at present whether, if proposals were made for compulsory representation of the pharmacists upon one or other of them, he should feel bound to vote one way or the other; he wanted to hear what was said; but if the administrative part of the proposals was not so formulated that it secured the interests locally of the pharmacists, then it

would be necessary to have representation of the pharmacists at every point where those interests came into consideration. If they got a scheme which safeguarded the interests of the pharmacists it would not be so essential that on one or other of the authorities the pharmacists should be represented. That was a matter which he would give his careful consideration. The main point seemed to be that this Bill when it came into operation—as he did not doubt it would in some form, but by no means necessarily in its present form—it should come into operation without any threat or any possibility of ruin of existing interests.

In reply to a point raised by Mr. Wippell Gadd, Mr. Duke said he objected to the general inclusion of people who were able to shift for themselves in a benevolent proposition. On the other hand, they had to bear in mind that a large number of people of very moderate means would feel it a great hardship if the general body of poor people about them had the right to resort to the scheme and they had not.

On the motion of Mr. Reid, seconded by Mr. Rowsell, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Duke, and the deputation withdrew.

LETTERS TO M.P.S AND THE CHANCELLOR.

The following is the text of a letter which has been signed by chemists of Highgate, London, N. :

To the Right Honourable D. Lloyd George, M.P.

SIR,—We, the undersigned chemists established in Highgate, write to ask that you will modify the terms of the National Insurance Bill, Clauses 14 and 15, in order that this Bill may apply with more justice and fairness to pharmacists than it does at present.

There is in this Bill no recognition of the substantial capital invested by chemists in their businesses, which businesses will be detrimentally affected by the provisions for supplying medicines by means other than those which are now available.

The Bill as it stands will ruinously affect the vested interests of between 10,000 and 15,000 chemists in Great Britain and Ireland.

It is therefore in the highest degree imperative :

(1) That the dispensing of medicines under this scheme should be done by qualified registered pharmacists in accordance with the Pharmacy Acts, and that all dispensaries where such dispensing is carried on should be subject to all the provisions of the Pharmacy Acts, the Food and Drugs Act, the Weights and Measures Act, and all other Acts of Parliament affecting traders.

(2) That arrangements for the supply of medicines should be made with the local Health Committees, subject to the approval of the Insurance Commissioners, and not left to be settled by bargaining with the friendly societies.

(3) That the remuneration for dispensing and the supply of medical requisites should not be on a capitation basis, but should be arranged on a scale system, as is done in Germany, uniform rates being fixed by Government for the whole country.

(4) Pharmacists should be represented on the local Health Committees and on the Advisory Committee appointed by the Insurance Commissioners.

These, Sir, are the points which demand urgent consideration and amendment, and we trust that you will be able to modify the text of your Bill on the lines suggested.

We beg to remain, etc.

Then followed the signatures of Messrs. Arthur E. Bailey, Harold E. Bailey, G. Dickinson, James Downing, Milton Hersant, Charles E. Saunders, and Albert Thorpe. They also sent the following letter to the M.P. for this division of Middlesex :

To the Right Honourable the Earl of Ronaldshay, M.P.

We, the undersigned chemists in your Lordship's constituency, write to ask that you will use your influence in Parliament to bring about an amendment of the National Insurance Bill, Clauses 14 and 15, on lines which will make it apply with more justice and fairness to pharmacists than it does at present.

It is in the highest degree imperative :

(1) That the dispensing of medicines under this scheme should be done by duly qualified and registered pharmacists in accordance with the Pharmacy Acts, and that all dispensaries where such dispensing is carried on should be subject to all the provisions of the Pharmacy Acts, the Food and Drugs Act, the Weights and Measures Act, and all other Acts of Parliament affecting traders.

Unless this is done there is nothing in the present Bill to prevent the friendly societies from establishing their own dispensaries under unqualified management for the distribution of medicines to their members, and such operations would fall outside the scope of the Pharmacy Acts, since they would not constitute sales of poisons within the meaning of the Acts.

Further, the Government should be recommended to utilise, as far as is possible, the existing means of supplying medicines to the public, since these means are adequate for the purpose. The setting-up of new dispensaries by the friendly societies cannot but greatly damage the vested interests of the chemists now established in business.

(2) That arrangements for the supply of drugs and medicines should be made with the local Health Committees, subject to the approval of the Insurance Commissioners, and not left to be settled by bargaining with the friendly societies.

These societies should not be able to contract for the supply of medicines, since such a system can only call into existence evils worse than those which the Bill seeks to eradicate.

(3) That the remuneration for dispensing and the supply of medical requisites should not be on a capitation basis, but should be arranged on a scale system, as is done in Germany, uniform rates being fixed by Government for the whole country.

If the poor person is to have the best drugs, the dispenser must not be bound to supply these at a fixed annual charge per head.

All registered pharmacists in business should have equal opportunities of participating in the scheme, and the liberty of the subject would not be restricted, as it would be if he were compelled to obtain his medicine from one particular chemist in each district. As patients should be free to choose their own doctors, so they should also be free to choose their own chemists.

(4) Pharmacists should be represented on the local Health Committees and on the Advisory Committee appointed by the Insurance Commissioners.

These are the points which demand urgent consideration and amendment by the Government, for unless this is done the present medical proposals will ruinously affect the businesses of between 10,000 and 15,000 chemists in Great Britain and Ireland.

There is in this Bill no recognition of the capital invested by chemists in their businesses, which businesses will be detrimentally affected by the provisions for supplying medicines by means other than those which are now available.

Trusting, therefore, that your Lordship will give the matter immediate attention, and that you will do your best to bring about the much-needed modifications in the text of the Bill,

We have the honour to remain, etc.

We are indebted to Mr. Arthur E. Bailey for these copies, and we reproduce them as being suitable for use by other chemists, but we would suggest that the four points should be replaced by the seven which Mr. Glyn-Jones put forward to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Eighteen chemists and voters in Hove have signed the following statement, which has been forwarded by Mr. E. F. Salmon to the Parliamentary representatives :

GENTLEMEN,—The inadequacy of the payment per head of medical men under the National Insurance Bill, now before Parliament, is prominently brought before the public day by day, but not so the danger to many pharmacists of losing their means of livelihood.

We, whose names are appended, pharmacists of Hove and your Parliamentary constituents, would therefore ask you at all stages of the Bill to watch our interests and those of the whole body of pharmacists throughout Great Britain by ensuring that—

1. The dispensing of medicines in connection with the scheme shall be confined to legally qualified pharmacists.

2. Friendly societies shall not, under any circumstances, be permitted to set up dispensaries or stores for the distribution of medicine.

3. The remuneration shall be adequate in whatsoever manner it may be provided; and

4. That the insured shall be permitted to take their prescriptions to be dispensed by any pharmacist for whom they have a preference.

We are, Gentlemen, etc.

Notes.

On June 2 Mr. Rupert Gwynne, M.P., held a conference with the Eastbourne Chemists' Association in regard to the Bill. The deputation said the Bill should provide that dispensing should be done by qualified pharmacists only, and that a schedule of prices should be embodied in the measure. The hon. member declined to pledge himself, but promised full consideration of the suggestions made.

The "Times" of June 5 printed a short article calling attention to the effect of the Bill on the sale of stamped medicines, the opinion being expressed that the Bill would reduce the sale of these. The article remarked that this effect had been overlooked, but that is not so. It was pointed out in the *C. & D.* as soon as the terms of the Bill were known, and subsequently we mentioned that the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his Budget speech provided for a reduction of 2,000*l.* revenue from stamps for medicines and playing-cards.

On Saturday, June 17, a procession of women will march through the streets of London to demand the enfranchisement of their sex. Practically every trade or profession in which women are working will be represented, including pharmacy. The Hon. Secretary of the pharmacists' group, Miss Gilliat, Ph.C., of the Western Hospital, Fulham, S.W.,

who will be pleased to answer any inquiries respecting the procession, writes: "At the present moment it is particularly desirable that there should be a large number of women pharmacists marching. The critical position of pharmacists with regard to the National Insurance Bill forces upon us anew the urgent necessity of direct Parliamentary representation."

Correspondence in the newspapers on the position of chemists under the Bill is growing, and we quote from some of the more interesting letters:

"Family Doctor" asks in the "Yorkshire Post":

"Do the chemists realise that if the Bill passes they will have to have someone always on duty, and certainly on night duty?"

Sir Edward Evans (Liverpool) contradicts a reported statement attributed to Dr. C. Symes that he is opposed to the Bill. On the contrary, Sir Edward says:

"I consider it perhaps one of the most important measures that has ever been brought into Parliament, and that it will be far-reaching in its effects to the good of the community as a whole. It is undoubted, however, that in its details, especially as it affects the trade in which I am engaged and the medical profession, amendments may have to be made, but I am also able to state that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is only too willing to receive from anybody who may think they are injured under the Bill suggestions either by deputation or otherwise, and that there is no one more desirous than he is, as far as possible, that no one should be injuriously affected. . . . It is not to be expected with any such gigantic scheme but that many matters of detail will have to be thrashed out, but I am perfectly convinced in the end no one will materially suffer, and certainly the whole of the community will gain."

Dr. Symes, in reply, explains that Sir Edward had expressed to him his disapproval of Clause 14, sub-clause 2, and it was that which he had conveyed to the meeting.

Many other letters have come to us, as well as editorial notes, all showing that there is little fear of the chemists' case not being familiar when we reach the business point in the House of Commons. Keep it up!

CHEMISTS' SPECIAL MEETINGS.

For convenience we place here reports of meetings of local associations at most of which the Bill was discussed and resolutions passed.

Edinburgh District Chemists' Trade Association.

A special meeting of pharmacists and others interested, at 76 York Place, on Thursday, June 8, was called to consider the Bill as it affects pharmacy in Scotland. (See Coloured Supplement.)

A Special Meeting of the retail chemists of Liverpool and district was held at the Bee Hotel, St. John's Lane (opposite St. George's Hall), on Thursday afternoon, June 8, at 3 P.M. The meeting was called by Messrs. F. C. Naylor, E. Prebble, J. H. Robinson, H. Lonax, and L. Moreton Parry. It is expected that Mr. Henry Peet, J.P., will preside.

Weymouth Pharmacists' Association.

A meeting was held at the Crown Hotel on Monday, May 29. Messrs. Wiseman, Richards, Hudson Cox, Gregory, Woodward, Bullock, Jeanes, and Hancock were present. After discussion it was unanimously agreed that this Association strongly protests against payment for medicine supplied under the Bill on a capitation basis. The Secretary was instructed to forward copies of the resolution to the Member for South Dorset and the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Leeds Chemists' Association.

At a crowded meeting held on May 31 a long discussion on the effects of the *National Insurance Bill* resulted in the decision that efforts should be made to secure the following provisions: (1) That the dispensing of medicines be performed by registered pharmacists only; (2) that the prices charged be regulated under a schedule arranged by the health committees; (3) that patients have free choice of pharmacist; (4) that at least one pharmacist be elected on each health committee.

Stockton-on-Tees Chemists' Association.

A meeting was held at Newman's Café on May 31, under the presidency of Mr. W. Finlayson, to discuss the position of registered men under the proposed *National Insurance Bill*. Dr. Bryden, the Secretary of the local Medical Association, and Dr. Hughes attended the meeting, the latter urging chemists to do all in their power to endeavour to alter the conditions affecting themselves. A resolution was passed empowering the executive to frame resolutions to be discussed at a meeting on June 7.

Nottingham Pharmaceutical Association.

The adjourned annual general meeting was held at the Albert Hotel, Derby Road, on May 31. Mr. F. Ross Sergeant occupied the chair. Among those present were Messrs. W. S. Adamson, A. E. Bellby, C. F. Carr, E. F. Dickenson, A. Eberlin, W. Gill, G. F. Godson, W. Meakin, A. Middleton, H. P. Middleton, H. C. Prince, S. H. Platin, C. E. Reynolds,

J. T. Robson, J. Smith, T. Wilson, and T. Freeman and E. E. H. Turtton (Secretaries). It was decided that a picnic should be held during the summer. Messrs. R. Widdowson and A. Eberlin were elected *auditors*. Messrs. A. Middleton and T. Freeman were elected *delegates* to the British Pharmaceutical Conference. Discussion on the alteration of the rules relating to the election of the committee was then resumed. These were left unchanged, except that persons nominated must express their willingness to serve.

Stockport Pharmacists' Association.—A special meeting was held at Crossley's Café, Market Place, on May 31, to consider the *National Insurance Bill* as it affects the practice of pharmacy. Mr. George Bennett presided, and the following were also present: Messrs. Bushby (Levenshulme), Rideal (Levenshulme), Bowden (Cheadle), Stabler (Didsbury), Anderson (Heaton Chapel), and Roysse, Nicholson, Gee, Taylor, and Orrell, all of Stockport. The following resolutions were passed unanimously:

"That the members of the Stockport and District Pharmacists' Association are heartily in support of the principle of dividing the dispensing of medicines from the prescribing as suggested in the *National Insurance Bill*."

"That instead of the pharmacist bargaining with the local health committee or the friendly societies, arrangements as to terms should be between the pharmacist and the State."

"That the patient should be able to get his medicines dispensed by the nearest or any registered pharmacist."

A Joint Meeting of the Forfarshire and District Chemists' Association and Dundee and District Pharmacists' Association was held in Mathers' Hotel, Dundee, on June 7, at 4 P.M., to discuss the *National Insurance Scheme*, and to consider the desirability of sending a deputation to interview the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Mr. John Gray presided over a large (forty) and representative assemblage of pharmacists from town and country. Mr. J. Rutherford Hill gave an account of the interview with Mr. Lloyd George. This statement was received with approval by all present, although one or two of the country members were disposed to argue some of the contentious points of the measure. Mr. Peebles (Lochee) proposed the names of the two local Presidents, Mr. J. Gray and Mr. C. Stephen, to form part of a proposed Scotch deputation, and subsequently that of Mr. Bennet (Arbroath) was added as representing country interests. The meeting was next addressed by Mr. Yule (Cowdenbeath), who along with Mr. David Storrar (Kirkcaldy) represented the Fifeshire Association.

Carlisle Chemists' Association. A largely attended meeting was held in the Viaduct Hotel on Thursday, June 1, Mr. T. Ridley presiding. The *National Insurance Bill* was discussed, and the following resolutions unanimously agreed to:

(1) "That the words 'registered pharmacist' be inserted in Clause 14, so that all dispensing under the Act be performed by pharmacists only."

(2) "That a schedule of prices, by arrangement with the Pharmaceutical Society or some appointed committee, be provided for in the Bill, and not left to be bargained for with friendly societies."

(3) "That a free choice of pharmacists be allowed to insured persons for having their prescriptions dispensed."

(4) "That pharmacists be directly represented on the local health committees."

The Secretary was instructed to send copies of the resolutions to Mr. Lloyd George, the local M.P.s, and to Mr. Glyn-Jones, M.P.

Keighley Pharmacists' Association.—A special meeting was held last week, Mr. J. Harrison (Vice-President) in the chair, to consider the *National Insurance Bill*, when the following resolution was passed, copies of which are to be sent to Sir John Brigg, M.P. for Keighley, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Pharmaceutical Society, and Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P.: "That we, the members of the Keighley and District Chemists' Association, heartily support the separation of prescribing from the dispensing of medicines as suggested in the *National Insurance Bill*, but we consider that the following provisions should be made: (1) That the words 'registered pharmacists' should be inserted in Clause 14, Section 2, so that all dispensing under the Act be performed by pharmacists only; (2) that a schedule of prices be fixed by the State, and not left to be bargained for by friendly societies; (3) that there be a free choice of pharmacists to whom the insured person can take the prescription given him by his medical man; and (4) that pharmacists be directly represented on local health committees."

Lincoln Chemists' Association.—A meeting was held at the Coffee Palace on May 30, the President (Mr. W. E. Hill) in the chair. Other members present were Messrs. C. Battle, Aram, Dixon, Walker, Wark, Watson, and Birbeck. A series of questions relative to the *State Insurance Bill* was received from the Pharmaceutical Society, and the Secretary was instructed as to the answers to be forwarded. After

a long discussion the meeting passed the same resolutions as in the last two reports.

Newcastle Chemists.—A meeting of registered pharmacists of Newcastle and the district was held at the Hôtel Métropole, Clayton Street West, on May 31. Mr. W. Buckley (President of the Newcastle Pharmacists' Association) was in the chair, and there were also present Messrs. T. M. Clague, R. Wright, Jas. Gibson, G. Foggan, E. Dean, W. Keise, F. Gilderdale, W. Pescod, J. Dakers, J. Graham, W. Atkins, C. Russell, T. Wray, Kerrison and Bell (Sunderland), Erskine and Craig (Berwick-on-Tweed), H. W. Noble, J. Doig, J. S. Hill, Hogg, Williamson, and Stonier (North Shields), W. Giles, T. Herd, Dewar, J. F. Simpson, J. Crake, T. H. Fleming, G. H. Martin, R. Cubey, J. Newbiggin (Alnwick), W. Kinnis, Patten, Spink, Walker, H. Davison, Campbell, Hawson, Crawford, Bowness, C. E. Layne, R. Hepworth, and F. R. Parker. Mr. Clague introduced the subject of the *National Insurance Bill*, and it was felt by all that something definite relating to pharmacy should be inserted in the Bill. Three resolutions were agreed upon, the principal one being in favour of payment for dispensing on an *ad valorem* basis, instead of *per capita*.

Aberdeen Pharmaceutical Association.—A meeting took place on June 7 to discuss the bearing of the *National Insurance Bill* on pharmaceutical work. Mr. J. R. Hill, Assistant-Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society in Scotland, was present. He said the problem before them was not to try and prevent the Bill becoming law, but to get it so amended that the legitimate interests of pharmacy will be duly safeguarded. Pharmacists are not opposed to the Bill, which is a great scheme of social betterment, but they have to see that the Bill does not affect their interests injuriously. The Bill affects pharmacy in Scotland much more seriously than in England, because it includes in its scope a larger proportion of the population. The chemists' point is that the Bill as it stands does not secure that they will have just and fair conditions. The meeting agreed that in supply of medicines there should be no contracting, that all charges should be regulated by the Government scale of prices, that their dealings be direct with the committees and not with the friendly societies, that chemists should have representation on the committees, that the insured be at liberty to go to whichever chemist he chooses, and that the dispensing be done by pharmacists.

Isle of Thanet Chemists' Association.—A meeting was held at the Hôtel Métropole, Margate, on June 1, to discuss the *National Insurance Bill*. The following resolution was carried unanimously:

"That this Association view with great apprehension their probable position under the National Insurance Bill now before Parliament, inasmuch as they see in its present state a direct and disastrous effect upon their livelihood. That the possibility of the friendly and approved societies becoming their own manufacturers, distributors, dispensers, etc., without being subject to the various Acts now in force for the protection of the public (as is the case of registered chemists), makes the matter a serious one and the competition manifestly unfair and un-English. That the supply of drugs, etc., should be limited to registered chemists only. That the voluntary portion of the scheme be deleted. That some consideration should be made for extraordinary services such as night-calls, etc."

Copies of the resolution are to be sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mr. Norman Craig. Another resolution was directed to spurring on the Pharmaceutical Society to adopt measures to secure full recognition for the pharmacist.

Belfast Chemists.—A meeting of pharmaceutical chemists of Belfast and district was held on May 31 at 11 Waring Street, Belfast, for the purpose of considering the *State Insurance Bill*, and of taking such steps as might be deemed necessary to safeguard the position of dispensing chemists. Mr. Jas. Tate, Ph.C., presided over a good attendance. The meeting was convened by Mr. Jas. Guiler, Ph.C., who acted as hon. secretary. The meeting discussed the proposals of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in so far as they affect pharmaceutical chemists, and was unanimously against the opening of dispensaries. It was also agreed that the public should be permitted to go to any chemist they desired, and that this portion of the Bill could best be carried out on the lines adopted in Germany. No resolution was passed, but a committee, consisting of Messrs. Tate (Royal Avenue), Dobbin (North Street), Hardy (Castle Place), Montgomery (Royal Avenue), Elliott (Shaftesbury Square), McKnight (Carlisle Circus), McDonald (Donegall Street), Green (Grattan & Co.), Finegan (Royal Avenue), and Guiler (Ormeau Road), was appointed to draw up a resolution setting forth the views of the meeting, to interview the local members of Parliament with a view to securing their assistance, to send copies of the resolution to Mr. Lloyd George and members of Par-

liament in general, and to act in unison with the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland in the best interests of dispensing chemists. A further meeting will be convened if necessary.

Birkenhead and Wirral Association.—A special open meeting of pharmacists was held in the Association Rooms, Hamilton Street, Birkenhead, on June 1, to consider the *National Insurance Bill*. There were present Messrs. Wynne, Snow, Sturt, Stephen Jones, Stoner, Fawcett, Foxe, Lewis, Jennings (Hoylake), Rogers, Caine, Stockdale, Tottle, Welton, Woods, Stevens, Rowlands, Hollingworth, Ellithorne, Govier, Hume, Walker (Little Sutton), Waller (Ellesmere Port), White, Somerville, Jones, Pierson, Evans, and Cookson. The Chairman (Mr. Wynne) explained the chief points of the Bill, pointing out the perils of Clause 14. A lively discussion followed, resulting in the usual resolutions being passed unanimously.

National Union of Assistant Pharmacists.—A meeting of the Birmingham Branch was held at Benson's Restaurant, Lower Temple Street, on May 29. Those present included Messrs. Francis, Wilson, Doo, and Bentley. Officers for the coming year were elected as follows: *President*, Mr. E. S. Francis; *Vice-President*, Mr. Wilson; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Mr. Bentley; *Committee*, Messrs. H. E. Doo, H. Lee, W. H. Bays, and G. H. Matthews. A resolution was passed *re* the *Shops Bill*, heartily supporting the amendment: "That chemists' assistants be subjected to the same hours of employment as the shop assistants included in the Bill." After a discussion on the *National Insurance Bill* it was decided the local Member of Parliament be asked to move the following amendment: "In every building where more than 200 prescriptions are dispensed weekly, the dispensing department should be under the personal control of a pharmacist, who shall be present whenever medicines containing poisonous substances are being prepared." Mr. Francis also moved the resolution: "That the Union supports the principle of dispensing being entirely in the hands of pharmacists." The Secretary was also instructed to write to the Hon. General Secretary respecting the expenses of delegates attending the annual meeting, suggesting that each branch Secretary set aside 2s. per month for this purpose. Also that local Secretaries ask the members of their branch to set aside one day of their holidays this year for canvassing to secure members for the Union.

Dublin Retail Drug Association.—A special committee meeting was held on June 1 to consider the details of the *State Insurance Scheme* so far as they relate to chemists. Mr. George Brown (Vice-President) presided. There were also present Sir Thomas W. Robinson, J.P. (Hayes, Conyngham, Ltd.), Mr. J. N. Hardy (Hoyte & Son), Dr. J. C. McWalter (Leonard & Co.), Mr. R. White, R.D., Mr. J. R. Middleton, J.P. (McMaster, Hodgson & Co.), Dr. J. A. Mitchell (Hamilton, Long & Co., Ltd.), and the Hon. Secretary (Dr. J. A. Barnes). The proposed legislation was discussed at great length, and while it was agreed that the Association's efforts should follow on the lines adopted by the Pharmaceutical Society, the following points were emphasised as needing amendment. It was considered that Ireland should be placed on an equal footing with the rest of the United Kingdom, qualified chemists or apothecaries only acting as dispensers, and that all shops legally open for the compounding of prescriptions should be included in the panel. The income-limit of those to be compulsorily insured should be 100l. instead of 160l. as proposed. Chemists, it was considered, should get one-third of the medical capitation-fee, with a minimum of 2s. Dr. McWalter pointed out that a good deal of trade might be lost, especially in the case of registered druggists, in respect of small purchases at present made by people for minor ailments. Under the new *régime*, he said, they would go to the doctor, since this was free, and he might in many cases deal with the ailment without actually prescribing drugs. It was therefore suggested that compensation should be claimed for loss of business where this could be proved.

Llandudno, Colwyn Bay and District Pharmacists' Association.—A meeting was held at the Station Hotel, Llandudno Junction, on Wednesday, May 31, at 2.30 p.m., to discuss the *National Insurance Bill*. Mr. W. A. Roberts (President) was in the chair, and there were also present Miss Horniblow, Messrs. Cocker, Gibson, Hughes, Hunt, Llewelyn Jones, Rogers Jones, Lloyd, McIntosh, Neill, and Smith. After a discussion the following resolutions were adopted:

(1) "That we strongly disapprove of the provision contained in the National Insurance Bill, now before Parliament, whereby the county health committees and approved societies are empowered to contract on best terms with pharmacists and others for supplying insured persons with drugs and medicines."

(2) "That, as an alternative, we commend to the notice of Parliament the desirability of substituting a general tariff drawn out by competent persons, such as now exists in some other countries."

(Here are quoted the five reasons from the editorial in the *C. & D.*, May 27, index folio 785.)

(3) "That we heartily approve the proposition contained in the Bill for separating the supply of medicines, drugs, and surgical dressings from medical attendance."

It was also resolved that typewritten copies of the resolutions be sent to Messrs. D. Lloyd George, M.P. (Carnarvon Boroughs), Sir Herbert Roberts, Bart., M.P. (West Denbighshire), Wm. Jones, M.P. (Arvon Division of Carnarvonshire), R. Winfrey, M.P., and W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., and to several other members who live in the district covered by the Association. It was further agreed that local Parliamentary representatives should be interviewed—Mr. Lloyd George by the President (Mr. Roberts) and Vice-President (Mr. Hughes, Conway); Sir Herbert Roberts, Bart., by Messrs. Adamson and Lloyd (Colwyn Bay); and Mr. Wm. Jones by the President with Mr. Cocker and Mr. McIntosh.

Grimsby Pharmacists' Association.—A special meeting was held at Dring's Hotel on May 29. There were present: Messrs. Cor. Willson (President), H. W. Colley, C. Dewing, E. N. Fletcher, R. C. Johnson, F. W. Heely, W. G. Robinson, T. D. Sneath, and C. N. Chapman (Assistant Secretary). A communication was read from the British Pharmaceutical Conference asking the Association to answer and consider several questions on *Secret and Proprietary Medicines*. The Secretary was instructed as to the replies to be forwarded. The *Government Insurance Scheme* was next considered. The President opened the discussion with an interesting paper showing the good and defective clauses of the Bill, and pointing out how the defects could be remedied. Mr. Lloyd George has undertaken a great work, and desires the help of experts to make the scheme a success. After a discussion the following resolutions were adopted, the first one to be sent to local M.P.s and the second to the Pharmaceutical Society, Chemists' Defence Association, and Mr. Glyn-Jones:

1. "We, the members of the Grimsby and District Pharmacists' Association, are heartily in support of the principle of dividing the dispensing of medicines from the prescribing as suggested in the National Insurance Bill; but we consider that instead of the friendly societies or health committees bargaining with the pharmacists the price of medicines should be fixed in a schedule of the Bill, and that the patient should be able to get the medicine dispensed only by a duly qualified and registered pharmacist carrying on his business locally."

2. "That the Grimsby and District Pharmacists' Association calls upon the Pharmaceutical Council to insist upon the inclusion in the National Insurance Bill of a clause to restrict the dispensing of medicines under the Act to duly qualified pharmacists, and urges the Council to arrange a deputation to wait upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer to lay this resolution before him."

Three Towns Association.—Under the auspices of the Plymouth, Devonport, Stonehouse and District Association of Pharmacists a special and largely attended meeting was held on June 1 to discuss the *National Insurance Bill* as it affects pharmacists. The President (Mr. F. A. Spear) occupied the chair, and among those present were Messrs. Condy U'Ren (Vice-President), E. G. Turney (Treasurer), J. E. Knight, F. J. Barge (Hon. Secretary), H. Wippell Gadd, B.L. (Exeter), A. J. Ancliffe, J. Barge, F. W. Broom, A. Barber, W. Barrett, James Cocks, F. F. Cox, H. D. Davey, J. Eslick, E. Green, Goldsworthy, F. W. Hunt, H. P. Hearder, Hadfield, Hemming, D. Hollow, J. W. Jones, W. Martin, S. A. Perkins, R. F. Roper, R. Rendle, J. D. Turney, and H. Vibert. Mr. Gadd opened the discussion, and the following resolutions were unanimously agreed to:

"That this meeting notes with pleasure the recognition of the Chancellor of the Exchequer of the advantage of separating prescribing and dispensing, and, as a corollary to this, strongly urges that provision should be made in the Bill to ensure that the dispensing shall be done by those persons who have fulfilled the statutory conditions laid down by the Legislature, and who are keeping open shop under the Pharmacy Acts."

"That all persons keeping open shop within the meaning of the Pharmacy Acts shall be entitled to have their names placed on a panel as suppliers of drugs and medicines to insured persons, and that insured persons shall have free choice of their suppliers from this panel."

"That a uniform schedule of *ad valorem* charges at which drugs and medicines shall be supplied to insured persons shall be laid down periodically for the whole country by the Insurance Commissioners."

"That in order to ensure the supply of proper and sufficient drugs and medicines to insured persons the Central Advisory Board and all local health committees shall include among their members at least two pharmacists."

Public Pharmacists' and Dispensers' Association.

A special meeting was held at the Guardians' Offices 53 Clerkenwell Road, London E.C., on June 1, for pharmacists in the Poor-law service. Among those present were Messrs. Geo. W. Udale (in the chair), R. W. Lindsey, H. Hewitt, J. H. France (Hon. Secretary), G. W. Lindsay, Noad Clark, J. F. Dunstan, G. W. Gibson, Miller, Hill, Kinsman, Mathewson, Wilstenholme, Colbeck, Evans, Smith, Miss Andrews, and several others. The Chairman, in the course of an excellent address, said that the meeting had been convened to inaugurate a *Poor-law Section* of the Association to deal with matters purely of interest to those members who were in the Poor-law service. He dwelt on the reasons that had led the Council to take this step, and pointed out the objects the section hoped to achieve. It had been contended that the Association did not specifically represent the Poor-law service, but he hoped the Association had now overcome that grievance. Mr. France said he was pleased to have had the opportunity of bringing the matter to the notice of the Association's Council. Mr. Dunstan, an old member returned to the fold, read several messages he had received from Poor-law pharmacists unable to attend the meeting, and expressed his satisfaction at the step the Council had taken. Another matter on the agenda was: "Whether in view of possible changes in the Poor-law service the time is opportune for action to be taken by pharmacists in the service to improve their position and safeguard their interests." Many important points were raised in the discussion, the participants including Messrs. Dunstan, France, R. W. Lindsey, Gibson, and Hewitt. Mr. Lindsey referred to an interesting letter he had received from Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme (Past-President of the Pharmaceutical Society) relating to the salaries of Poor-law dispensers in the provinces, from which it appeared that they fare much better in this respect than their colleagues in the Metropolis. Mr. Dunstan urged Poor-law members to join the London Branch of the National Poor-law Officers' Association, and a motion to this effect was carried. The election of a committee to arrange the business of the section resulted as follows: Messrs. R. W. Lindsey, France, Gibson, Rutter, Dunstan, Kinsman, Miller, Hewitt, Noad Clark, and Geo. W. Gibson, the last-named being the Hon. Secretary to the section. The proceedings closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Liverpool Chemists' Association.—An open meeting of the chemists of Liverpool and district was convened at the Royal Institution on Thursday, June 1, to discuss the State Insurance proposals as relating to chemists. The chair was taken by the President (Mr. G. V. C. Last), and there were also present Messrs. J. H. Allan, A. C. Abraham, T. F. Abraham, A. Steen Barr, J. M. Badcock, A. S. Buck, J. H. Egan, Hawley, P. H. Marsden, H. Humphreys Jones, W. F. Laycock, H. Lomax, R. E. McDonald, G. A. Moffat, H. Nixon, F. C. Naylor, R. Oldham, L. Moreton Parry, W. F. Patridge, J. H. Robinson, A. Shaw, W. H. Saunders, C. Symes, O. Waddington, and B. Whalley. The Chairman having briefly opened the discussion, Mr. Parry said that the Bill does not ensure a particle of the dispensing business for the retail chemist, and suggested the following amendments:

1. That chemists as well as medical men should have seats on the Central Insurance Board.

2. That pharmacists be entitled to direct representation on local health committees.

3. That clause 21 section C be amended so as to prevent friendly societies from bartering away the chemist's livelihood and encouraging cut-throat competition, and that no friendly society or societies should have power or control over the financial side of medical benefits or to in any manner compete with chemists in supplying medicine, etc.; and

4. That clause 14 be amended so as to (a) clearly define "drugs and medicines"; (b) provide that no persons other than registered chemists and companies in business under the provisions of the Pharmacy Acts be allowed to supply or to receive payment for dispensing drugs and medicines under the bill; (c) arrange a fixed tariff for dispensing; and (d) provide that insured persons shall have free choice of chemist.

Dr. Symes followed with general comments upon the Bill and the German system, saying as to the latter that we cannot apply German methods to pharmacy in this country. One of the greatest dangers under the Bill is that there is nothing to prevent wholesale houses, friendly societies, and others from practising pharmacy to the detriment of properly trained and qualified pharmacists. Mr. T. F. Abraham and Mr. A. C. Abraham followed, the latter expressing the opinion that Mr. Parry had taken rather an extreme view of the Bill. He considered that there should be a fixed tariff as in Germany. A patient should be allowed to take his prescription where he liked. He added that the Pharmaceutical Society are taking every possible means to obtain the necessary knowledge, and when the time comes will act in a proper and becoming manner. Mr. McDonald felt, after hearing Mr. A. C. Abraham, that the age of faith is not yet passed. We do not know what the Pharmaceutical Society

is doing. He was followed by Mr. Lomax, who supported Mr. Parry, advocating a determined stand by chemists for the dispensing under the Bill. One result would be, he said, that the public would become so used to the chemist dispensing their medicine that they would look with disfavour upon medical dispensing, and in another generation dispensing doctors would be extinct. Mr. Marsden did not agree with Mr. Lomax, and spoke about voluntary hospitals and against capitation, also advocating co-operation with medical men. Mr. Robinson and Mr. Naylor spoke in support of Mr. Parry. On the motion of Mr. T. F. Abraham, seconded by Mr. A. Steen Barr, the following resolution was adopted:

"That in the opinion of this meeting of Liverpool pharmacists the principles of the Bill are worthy of all support, but it is essential that first the dispensing of medicines for persons insured should be in the hands of qualified pharmacists, and that any attempt to fix the rate of capitation is undesirable and unjust."

The following committee was appointed to meet the local Medical Association and to further the interests of pharmacists: The President (Mr. Last), Messrs. Parr, Marsden, Wyatt, Dr. Symes, Messrs. Shaw, Lomax, Robinson, Naylor, J. H. Allan, Buck, and Hawley. Mr. T. F. Abraham and Mr. Moreton Parry were also nominated, but declined to serve. [As a result of dissatisfaction of a section of the meeting another one was called for Thursday, June 8.—EDITOR C. & D.]

WESTMINSTER WISDOM.

The Week in Parliament.

THE INEBRIATES ACTS.

The Home Secretary has privately informed Mr. J. King, M.P., that he cannot at present make any statement as to the introduction of a Bill to amend the Inebriates Acts promised in the King's Speech of 1909.

THE SHOPS BILL.

The Bill will again come under the attention of the Standing Committee on Thursday, June 15, when Clauses 14 and 15, to which Mr. Glyn-Jones has several amendments standing upon the paper, will come up for consideration. Mr. Glyn-Jones will also move the following new clause:

(1) No shop shall, save as otherwise provided by this Act, be open for the serving of customers for more than seventy hours in any week.

(2) The occupier of a shop shall fix, within the limits allowed by this section, and shall specify in a notice in the prescribed form, which shall be served upon the local authority, the hours during which the shop is open for the serving of customers, and he shall continuously exhibit in a conspicuous place outside the shop a copy of the said notice.

Mr. W. P. Byles has given notice of the following new clause relating to travelling auctioneers:

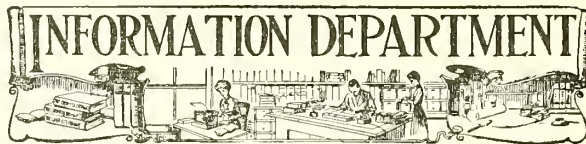
Where it is the practice of a van-dwelling auctioneer travelling from place to place with tent and vans not to commence his sales before seven o'clock in the evening, nothing in this Act, or in any order made thereunder, shall render it unlawful for such auctioneer to carry on retail trade or business after seven o'clock in the evening on any day other than Sunday.

TRADE NOTES.

FOOT-BATH TABLETS.—Messrs. Arthur H. Cox & Co., Ltd., Brighton, are making a special offer in our advertisement pages regarding a new line in foot-bath tablets. The tablets are put up in a compact form in slide boxes, and should be good sellers at the present time when sweltering weather prevails.

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN OPTICAL Co., 47 Hatton Garden, London, E.C., inform us that the first and second prize-winners at the recent examination of the Spectacle-makers' Company were coached at the School of Optics carried on by the company under the control of Mr. Guy E. Druiff and Mr. Walter Green. At the previous examination the winner of the first prize also received his tuition at the company's school.

The exports of vanilla from Vera Cruz, Mexico, during the fiscal year 1909-10 amounted to 125 tons, valued at 128,569*l.* as against 127 tons, valued at 154,231*l.*, in 1908-9, and 102 tons, valued at 185,769*l.*, in 1907-08.



Postal Address:
C. & D. INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, 43 Cannon Street, London, E.C.
Telegraphic Address: "CHEMICUS LONDON."
Telephone No.: BANK 832 (two lines).

INFORMATION WANTED.

We would be obliged if any reader would inform us by post-card or telephone who are the makers or agents of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries received since our last issue:

- 63/59. "Bigalin."
- 55/65. "Quinhol."
- 64/57. "Pompeian Powder."
- 60/530. "Macknal Coal-tar Soap."
- 60/19. "Thalutroids" (homœopathic).
- 60/53. Bullock's (Bristol) infallible healer.
- 44/13. "Aleptirids" (Vitruvio Chemical Co.).
- 54/63. "Poudre de Riz" boxes (flat, circular).
- 53/9. "St. Lucia Herb-extract" (for insomnia).
- 62/45. Ginger-beer plant (B. Zylinium): suppliers.
- 56/11. Dr. Blockuswiski's "Sanater" (blue cartons).
- 61/43. "Maculine" made by "La Roche, London."
- 57/42. Dr. Niven's paper handkerchiefs, serviettes, etc.
- 60/531. "Australian Solvent" (for tender feet), M. N. & Co.
- 57/13. Harvey's "Diarrhœa Pellets," "Diuretic No. 3," and "Little Devils."

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

During the past week we have answered inquiries as to where the following articles can be obtained, and in many cases we have given the actual makers. The information will be repeated to any other inquirers who send to this Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- | | |
|---|--|
| Aniline dyes (60/51). | Levadura de Cerveja (63/19). |
| Annatto (seed and roll) (62/41). | Mergal (64/54). |
| Antithyrodin Moebius (63/66). | Naturalists' blowpipes, etc. (58/73). |
| Artist label designer, etc. (58/24). | Nazol (62/13). |
| "Arum Lily" perfume (61/74). | Omnopon (61/34). |
| Camel-hair pencils (63/7). | Paraffin wax, etc. (62/19). |
| Cellasin tablets (64/54). | Pompeian Massage Cream (64/570). |
| "Charter" aerator (53/72). | Soxhlet's sterilising apparatus (64/49). |
| Claxton's patent ear caps (60/32). | Storaxol (60/39). |
| Ep-A-tone (61/35). | Sulphocide (62/67). |
| Evan's talcum powder (53/63). | Therox (61/42). |
| Gibson's Gout Mixture (60/35). | Thurston's condition powders (63/6). |
| Glass labels for shop drawers (64/251). | Townson's scientific apparatus (63/14). |
| Glass leech aquariums (64/25). | Transparent horn tooth-combs (64/250). |
| Gonosan capsules (64/540). | "Uga" preparations (64/13). |
| Hazol (57/43). | Vapo-Naphthol (61/56). |
| Hunt's bottle caps (61/330). | "Vernas" lotion (60/53). |
| Kalodont (61/10). | "Verveine" perfume (61/35). |
| "La Tosca" Nit-Killer (61/59). | "Vixol" apparatus (64/38). |
| Laxaline (64/57). | "Zondo" disinfectants (61/33). |

APPRECIATIONS.

From a provincial wholesale house:

"You seem to be a universal storehouse of information."—(27/14).

From a chemist and dentist:

"This department of yours has been such a help to me in the past that I have no hesitation in again troubling you, knowing the enormous time it saves chemists such as I am, situated in a country town, where such knowledge is difficult to obtain."—(28/29).

From a wholesale druggists' sundriesman:

"Many thanks for your kind and prompt letter of the 1st inst. I am writing the two firms named."—(29/35).

OBSERVATIONS & REFLECTIONS.

By Krayser II.

The Member for Pharmacy,

Mr. Glyn-Jones, has had a very anxious and busy time ever since his election to Parliament, but recently his burden has become especially heavy. I doubt whether any other unofficial members have more responsibility on their shoulders than he. Representing many thousands of pharmacists, he has had to watch their interests in the matter of the Shops Bill, and now coming on top of that is the much more complex question of the relation of his clients to the National Insurance Bill. It was most unfortunate that he was not able to catch the Speaker's eye in the Second Reading debate, for he would certainly have enlightened the House on a part of the question on which much light is needed. Failing this, Mr. Glyn-Jones has done the next best, perhaps even better, by arranging the interview between the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the representatives of the pharmacists, a meeting which, I am sure, has already been productive of great benefit.

The National Insurance Bill,

as was to be expected, has furnished the principal theme for the winding-up of the meetings of the local associations, no fewer than twenty of those reported having been devoted to the discussion of the measure. Naturally the trend of opinion is all in one direction—namely, that the Bill must provide for dispensing being done by qualified pharmacists, and must secure for them fair remuneration for their work. There is not yet any apparent agreement as to whether there ought to be, as in Germany, a statutory scale of charges, or *per capita* payments as is common with many friendly societies in this country, some advocating one system and some the other. There are difficulties either way, and I am not sure if the best plan is not to leave the whole question optional for settlement by the various health committees and the pharmacists.

Mr. Lloyd George's Attitude

at the interviews with medical and pharmaceutical representatives is reassuring. We can gain nothing by attempting a policy of obstruction, and, indeed, it is difficult to see how we can possibly obstruct. Mr. James Reid writes boldly, but much of his rhetoric is altogether in the air, and I greatly doubt whether we can by such individual action as he recommends "force a State department," through the House of Commons or otherwise, to do or refrain from doing anything. The attempt to use "force" in any way would be as unwise as futile, for it would only demonstrate our weakness and create prejudice against us; our only wise course is to argue with the Chancellor himself, and to enlist the doctors on our side by showing them that their prescriptions would fare better in our hands than in those of the "dispensers" of a friendly society. The doctors, and not we, represent medicine to the public and to the House of Commons; our wisdom is to recognise this and seek our advantage under their wing. The advice may not be palatable, and it does not sound very heroic, but heroics are useless against hard facts, and "by indignities men come to dignities." I do not say that every individual pharmacist and association will not do well to set all the facts and arguments they can before their representatives in Parliament, but this should be done in no hostile or defiant spirit, and our claim should be not for our rights but for an opportunity of public service. The admirable letter of "M.P.S." in your last week's issue is worth a cartload of rhetoric, and shows us the line of persuasion we should follow. I am glad to see that most of the Associations who have already discussed the Bill have done so in this conciliatory spirit.

The Food and Drugs Prosecutions,

reported in your last issue, for defective ammonia seem to me to have been distinctly frivolous and vexatious proceedings. Indeed, in not one of the cases reported does there seem to have been any intention to defraud or prejudice the purchaser,

and the ends of justice would have been met with the infliction of a nominal fine and a caution to be more careful in future. The Oldbury Magistrates are to be congratulated on having taken this view of the ammonia case. There are few chemists who stock B.P. liq. ammon. fort., for they know well how the preparation deteriorates, and the invariable practice is to keep and sell the stronger 0.880 ammonia in the ordinary way of business. This preparation also deteriorates, and the fact that inspectors are procuring samples, and that prosecutions follow, seems to prove that there is very little real adulteration in food or in drugs in vogue.

What is a Drug?

The Oxford English Dictionary limits the present application of the word to medicinal substances, and the further question thus arises: What is a medicinal substance? Does a substance come under this head because it is occasionally used in medicine, or only when it is actually so used? Is sulphate of copper, for instance, or is arsenic, a medicinal substance when it is sold in quantity for dressing wheat? Is liquor ammon. fort. a drug when it is retailed by the pound? I should say that quite certainly it is not. To what medicinal use would it be likely to be put? Possibly the point is only a technical one, but it is quite as reasonable as many that have been urged against pharmacists. The mercury-ointment case, reported in the same issue, seems to me even harder. Here a pharmacist, who took every care to ascertain which of two possible articles was wanted, and, failing to get specific information, acted for the best by supplying the safer and more customary one, was fined a substantial sum, although the Bench held that there had been no fraudulent intention.

The Peony, or Pentæost Rose,

as it is called in some countries, which is just now the reigning beauty in our older-fashioned gardens, has quite lost its character as a medicinal plant, though anciently it was held in such esteem in this respect that it became the custom to call unusually skilful physicians *Pæoni*, and herbs of great medicinal value *Pæonia herba*. The very name of the plant is derived from *Pæon*, the name of the mythical physician of Olympus, the rival of Æsculapius, identified by some scholars with Apollo himself. The reputation of the plant depended chiefly upon its supposed efficacy against epilepsy and insanity, but it was also largely used for various diseases of women, and for jaundice and pains in the bladder and kidneys. Both root and seeds were employed. Galen recommends an amulet of the root to be worn for epilepsy and nightmare, and Bacon explains its action in these cases as one of "extreme and subtil alternation," by which he appears to mean that it disperses the "grossnesses of the vapours which rise and enter into the cells of the brain." In some parts of England peony seeds are still used in this way as a preventive of convulsions in teething. Gerard identifies the peony with the *Cynospastus* of Ælian, because, according to Apuleius, its seeds shine in the night like a candle, as was said to be the case with that plant. He does not, however, accept Ælian's statement that, like the mandrake, *Cynospastus* cannot be plucked up without danger, and is therefore usually uprooted by tying a hungry dog to it and "alluring him by the smell of roasted flesh set towards him." Even so it must be plucked by night, for anyone doing it in the daytime, and being seen by a woodpecker, is likely to lose his sight. Mrs. Hinkson boldly transfers these superstitions to our familiar garden flower. The herbalist Coles gives a receipt approved by "the Lady Gage" for a draught of peony and periwinkle leaves for restoring "lost wits" and speech, and most old housewife's receipt-books have similar ones for the same purpose. It was its use in such cases that gained for the peony its name *Lunaria pæonia*. It has not been a favourite flower with our poets; Shakespeare does not mention it, his "pioned banks" being really trenched banks; Cowper introduces it into "The Task"; but it was Keats who, first of our greater poets, spoke of its beauty—"the wealth of globed peonies." In spite of Gerard's assertion to the contrary, it is not a native of England.

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LIQUORS

Editorial Articles.

National Insurance Bill.

V. Waiting for the Plan of Campaign.

Chemist must fight for themselves, using all the legitimate means in their power to get a hearing and fair treatment.—
C. & D., June 3.

HAD we known what was in the Chancellor of the Exchequer's mind when these words were written, we could not have expressed more accurately the advice which he gave the pharmaceutical deputation last week. The official statement of the proceedings is printed elsewhere in this issue, and it is a fair report of what took place, but it should be read with the extracts which we give from the report of Mr. Lloyd George's speeches to medical men earlier in the day. This will go a good way towards satisfying the natural curiosity which may exist as to what was actually said at the pharmaceutical interview. Mr. Lloyd George gave medical men a great deal of information as to intentions which is useful to chemists, and nothing more useful than his statement that doctors should approach this subject realising fully that *the Bill is to go through this Session*, while he at the same time advised them that they must use all their parliamentary influence to get their ideas for amendments put forward in the House of Commons and supported by a majority of the members thereof. He declined to father such amendments, and indicated that Government attitude towards them depends upon pledges already given and the support or opposition which the amendments receive. The same applies to the case for chemists; therefore, we repeat with all the assurance that comes from hearing the Chancellor *Chemists must fight for themselves*. We recognise also that the fighting must be well organised and directed to a common purpose; free fighting and the diversion of power in directions which are not at all likely to result in gain will be bad for everybody. The seven cardinal principles formulated by Mr. Glyn-Jones and submitted to the Chancellor are a full selection of the points which give most promise for legislative action. For the present it is not necessary to resume discussion of these, or to speculate upon the chance of their acceptance by Parliament, except to say that we consider it unwise to ask for a national

scale system of dispensing charges. Authority for the institution of a scale would be valuable; but it would be disastrous to the best interests of pharmacy to have a specific scale in the enactment, or even to have a scale for the whole country periodically prepared and enforced. If adopted at all it should be local. We hope these remarks are not misunderstood, or considered to be inconsistent with our very full publication of the German scale and method which has led to the inquiry by Mr. Glyn-Jones and Professor Greenish—an inquiry which both Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Duke, K.C., the member for Exeter, have commended so highly. We anticipate that when the results of the inquiry are considered with the vastly different conditions of pharmacy in this country, the outcome will be what we have said—a localised scale system rather than a national one. German pharmacists have a monopoly of the business; British pharmacists have not. Moreover, this question is bound up with the related medical one as to whether doctors will be paid per visit or *per capita*. When that comes before legislators, they will find that payment per visit would tend to prolong the period of incapacity of the worker, and consequently greatly increase the outlay under the Bill. There is to be ample time for the consideration of all the points before Parliament takes up consideration of the Bill in Committee, and the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain has now undertaken organisation of the fight on behalf of all registered chemists in Great Britain, whether members of the Society or not. What chemists individually and as local associations have been doing is in the right direction—that is, expressing to their M.P.s their dissatisfaction with those parts of the Bill which refer to the supply of medicines, the Chancellor of the Exchequer being at the same time communicated with. As the weeks go on it will be necessary to write again and again to M.P.s, or even to interview them, for chemists are not to be without opposition. As for Ireland, we understand that the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society met in Dublin on Wednesday. In the absence of Dr. Walsh, the Vice-President (Mr. Watson) reported on the reception of the deputation by Mr. Lloyd George on June 2, and gave the Council particulars of the proposals for amendment of the Bill which Mr. Glyn-Jones had submitted on that occasion. The Council endorsed the approval by the Vice-President and Dr. Walsh of these proposals, and referred the whole matter to the Law Committee, which, we understand, will in a few days wait upon Sir Henry Robinson, Vice-President of the Irish Local Government Board, acting upon the suggestion of Mr. Lloyd George. The deputation will comprise pharmacists from the various parts of Ireland, and will no doubt press the Glyn-Jones proposals and urge the specially Irish aspects of the case.

Bromides.

IN view of the fact that reports have recently been current in the United States market that the "basic conditions in regard to the price of bromides are ripe for an advance," a well-informed American correspondent confirms the fact recently stated in the *C. & D.* that during the past few months there has been some tendency towards speculation, this being due to the advance in the price of bromides from the very low level which was reached some two or three years ago. Such reports of a further advance in price, our correspondent infers, are intended to cause further speculation, but so far as the leading makers in the United States are concerned, it is not contemplated to make any change "at least for some time." The position

is that the American makers, like all others who manufacture on an important scale, prefer a steady output, especially as the supply of bromine is practically unlimited. For several years past some of the leading makers have been working on the technical uses of bromides or bromine in some form, and although numerous clues have been closely followed up, none of them at the present time have consumed more than limited amounts. The policy of the makers is to stimulate such uses by making as low a price as possible for crude bromides, and their preference is, of course, for a further extended market rather than a limited one at high figures. In a monograph issued by the United States Geological Survey on the production of salt in 1909, the following paragraph is given in regard to the production of bromine:

It is stated that the production from Michigan is reported in the form of potassium bromide, and it has been impracticable to separate the bromine from the potassium. The production in 1909 is given at 728,875 lb., valued at \$92,735. The bromine industry in the United States, the Survey says, is centred in Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. An account is given of the method of producing bromine, in connection with which it is stated: Calcium chloride is also made from the residual liquor after the bromine has been extracted. This liquor is drawn from below into a cistern, where it is treated with lime to neutralise the acid. It is then pumped into the "calcium" kettles. These kettles are enclosed in steam jackets and have a steam coil in them which furnishes the necessary heat. The liquor is heated and concentrated to a thick syrup, after which it runs into sheet-iron drums holding 600 to 700 lb. In a short time the liquid cools and there is formed a solid mass of calcium chloride which is ready for shipment. In removing the material for use the drums are cut or pounded off, leaving a solid core.

As regards the London market for bromides, prices have been unchanged since the middle of February, when both the English and German makers advanced quotations to a minimum of 1s. 3½d. per lb. for potassium bromide, a price which it is admitted yields a fair working profit, as compared with the unremunerative rates which prevailed several years ago. Since the above advance was recorded, second-hand holders, some of whom purchased heavily when prices were at their lowest, have been gradually working off their stocks at slightly below the makers' prices, but there is still a fair quantity on offer.

The Finance Bill.

The text of the Bill which is necessary to give effect to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's new taxation proposals has been issued. It does not contain specific reference to the rectified-spirit licence, but Mr. John C. Umney has been informed by Mr. W. G. Glyn-Jones, M.P., that he has arranged with the Treasury to put down the proposed clause in the committee stage of the Bill. So far as Customs and Excise are concerned, five of the eleven clauses of the Bill deal with: (1) Duty on tea; (2) alterations of cocoa duty; (3) provision as to goods removed to be re-warehoused; (4) definition of "premises" for the purpose of the valuation of licensed premises; and (5) provision as to minimum duty not to apply to licensed premises situate in outlying parts of urban districts.

A Belated Order.

We are indebted to Messrs. Francis Newbery & Sons, Ltd., for a copy of a letter which they received on May 6 and which was addressed to—"J. Newbery, Bible & Sun, St. Paul's Churchyard, London." The letter was dated the 5th inst. and read thus:

"Sir,—Please send me a copy of 'The Renowned History of Little Goody Two Shoes,' price 6d., and published by J. Newbery, Bible & Sun. I enclose 7d. to include postage." This is rather a belated request. John Newbery left St. Paul's Churchyard about the year 1766 and three generations have since succeeded him, and the book publication department was dropped nearly a century ago. "Goody

Two Shoes" was by Dr. Oliver Goldsmith and should now be worth much more than 6d., at which it was originally published. Mr. Albert Lee, in an interesting article on John Newbery, entitled "A Philanthropic Publisher," says:

"Our present disgust at reading advertisements for some quack medicine at the end of exciting stories was shared in by some who lived in Newbery's days; but on the whole the people liked the practice, and it has lived on ever since. Newbery even brought his medicines and other wares into his story-books, as some may remember who have read 'Goody Two Shoes.' The story brings us to the point of Margery's father's illness and death, and then we read: 'He was seized with a violent fever in a place where Dr. James's Fever-powder was not to be had, and where he died miserably.' In the same book this occurs: 'She then sung "The Cuzz's Chorus" (which may be found in "The Little Pretty Plaything," published by Mr. Newbery).' In the same story there is another stroke of business: 'The books usually read by the scholars of Mrs. Two Shoes are these, and are sold at Mr. Newbery's at the Bible and Crown in St. Paul's Churchward.' The author of 'A Bookseller of the Last Century' gives many other samples, but the following is worth notice and occurs in a book entitled 'Fables in Verse: Woglog at Bath.' 'Lady: "Well, Mr. Woglog, where have you been?" "At church, madam; and pray, my lady, where have you been?" "Drinking the waters," said she. "But not for health?" "No, truly. I only drink them for wantonness." "Well, madam, and have they cured you of that complaint?" says Mr. Woglog. The lady blushed and took a turn on the grand parade, while Mr. Woglog stepped into Mr. Leake's to read one of Mr. Newbery's little books.'"

Whether there is any connection between Mr. Lee's article and the letter which was first referred to in this note we cannot tell, but we observe that it bears the postmark "Bath, May 5." It may not be generally known that the sign of the Bible and Sun still stands at the north-west corner of Ludgate Hill and St. Paul's Churchyard, where the business premises of John Newbery formerly stood. The shop is occupied by a watchmaker and jeweller, but the Newbery business left the sign.

Standardisation of Indian Hemp.

Drs. C. R. Marshall and J. H. Wigner are reporting to the Therapeutic Committee of the British Medical Association on the method suggested by Mr. David Hooper, F.I.C., of utilising the iodine number as a means of evaluating Indian hemp preparations. The method is based upon the fact that Wood, Spivey, and Easterfield's cannabinal reacts with bromine, and the authors have extended the research by using physiological methods for comparison, experimenting upon themselves, as different dogs exhibit varying susceptibility to the drug. The results of the investigation are summarised in the following table:

	Iodine No.
1. Original cannabinal (strongly active) ...	189
2. Original cannabinal (after oxidation) ...	184
3. Fractions obtained from 12-year old charas:	
Lower terpene fraction ...	67
Higher terpene fraction ...	180
Residue after distilling off terpene (very slightly active) ...	196
Fraction boiling at 280° to 300° C. at pressure 15 mm. of mercury (very slightly active) ...	247
Ditto (after oxidation) ...	229

No. 1 was a sample of the original cannabinal prepared by Wood, Spivey, and Easterfield in 1897, which had been kept in a sealed tube, and appeared to have lost little of its activity. No. 2 consisted of the same cannabinal after oxidation by a current of dry air, a process which C. R. Marshall showed diminishes the pharmacological activity of the product. No. 3 consists of the various fractions obtained by the distillation of an extract of the same charas from which the above cannabinal was prepared. The authors conclude:

"The figures show that the very active sample of cannabinal gives a lower iodine number than similar and almost

inert samples prepared from old charas; that the oxidation of cannabinal, although diminishing considerably the physiological activity, does not greatly lower the iodine value; and that the iodine number of the higher boiling terpenes, which possess no characteristic cannabis effect, approximates closely to that of active cannabinal. The determination of the iodine number seems, therefore, to be of no certain value as a means of estimating the pharmacological activity of cannabis preparations, and consequently it cannot be used as a substitute for physiological standardisation."

It will thus be seen that a rapid and easy method of evaluating Indian hemp has not yet been obtained. Before standardisation of a drug is possible it is essential that the active principle or principles be known. As regards Indian hemp there is still much doubt as to whether cannabinal represents the whole active part of the drug, and this, coupled with the idiosyncrasy which animals exhibit towards Indian hemp, make its standardisation one which only a skilled pharmacologist can be expected to undertake.

Another Buchu.

We have referred on several occasions recently to unofficial buchus whose appearance on the London market was no doubt due to the high prices ruling at the time. A sample parcel of a new variety was observed last month lying on the table in a Mincing Lane broker's showroom.

This new buchu was not offered for sale, but was regarded as quite a curiosity. Upon botanical examination we find that it is identical with the leaves derived from *Barosma venusta*, but in the absence of flowers the exact botanical origin cannot be stated. *B. venusta* is a shrubby plant, attains over a foot in height, and bearing crowded rod-like branches with slender leafy twigs. The imported specimen consists of branches about 15 inches long, the upper portion of which we illustrate, as also the leaves. The upper leaves are broadly ovate or roundish, being $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ inch long and almost



BAROSMA VENUSTA.

as broad. The lower ones may attain $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length and are narrower. The leaves are erect and shortly stalked, bearing impressed marginal glands and smaller glands dotted throughout the soft tissues. The plant is distinguished from that of *B. pulchella* (C. & D., 1907, II., p. 702) by the rounded shape of the leaves and the absence of a citronella odour. On crushing the leaves between the fingers the odour is at first pungent and acrid, but later recalls that of anise and fenugreek. Mr. N. S. Pillans, of the Cape Board of Agriculture, is investigating the South African buchus, and the diversity of the unofficial varieties which reach England shows the magnitude of the task he has undertaken. If the buchus are classified and examined from a chemical standpoint, like the eucalypts by Baker and Smith, it is possible that new essential oils of economic value may be obtained.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

A MEETING was held at Burlington House, London, W., on Thursday, June 1, the chair being taken by the President, Professor P. F. Frankland, F.R.S. The first paper was by Messrs. Caven and Sand on

THE DISSOCIATION OF SODIUM BICARBONATE.

In this they showed by measurement of the pressure developed when the bicarbonate is heated that it dissociates into carbon dioxide, water, and the normal carbonate, the last-mentioned substance being at once produced in the anhydrous form. By further investigation of the bicarbonates of potassium, caesium, and rubidium the authors hope to compare the basic intensities of the four alkali metals.

Drs. Dobbie and Lauder followed with a paper on the

ABSORPTION SPECTRA OF CINCHONINE AND QUININE,

in which they showed that the absorption spectra of these alkaloids and of their acid salts are practically identical with that of quinoline. The reason for this is that the "second halves" of the molecules of these alkaloids are fully saturated and consequently have no absorption spectra. An important consequence is that this particular optical method cannot be used for investigating the numerous isomerides of cinchonine since the variations in these are probably variations in the "second half" of the molecule in each case.

The following paper was communicated from the Wellcome Chemical Research Laboratories:

THE CONSTITUENTS OF THE BULB OF BUPHANE DISTICHA.

By Frank Tutin.

Buphane disticha, Herb., is a bulbous plant indigenous to South Africa, where it has long been known to possess toxic properties. It was formerly used as an arrow-poison, and the dry, outer layers of the bulb, which are of a fine, silky texture, are used by the natives as a substitute for surgical bandages. In this connection it may be noted that the living, inner portions of the bulb alone contain alkaloid, the dry, outer layers being devoid of such a substance.

An alcoholic extract of a large quantity of the inner portions of the bulbs yielded, on distillation with steam, a small amount of an essential oil containing fural.

The portion of the non-volatile products which was soluble in water yielded a small amount of acetovanillone (4-hydroxy-3-methoxyacetophenone), a quantity of chelidonic acid, $C_7H_6O_4$, and considerable amounts of copper and levulose. It also gave a mixture of alkaloids, the principal constituent of which is an amorphous, strongly basic product, designated *buphanine*, which possesses a physiological action similar to that of hyoscyne. A weakly basic and a water-soluble alkaloid were also obtained, both of which are amorphous, together with a small amount of the crystalline alkaloid, narcissine, $C_{17}H_{17}O_4N$. The weakly basic alkaloid is a convulsant poison, while the water-soluble base resembles colchicine and narcissine in its action. *Buphanine*, on hydrolysis, is converted into a crystalline alkaloid, *buphanitine*, $C_{16}H_{16}O_4N$, which melts at 240° , and yields a crystalline *hydrochloride* and *methiodide*.

The portion of the original extract which was insoluble in water consisted of amorphous products, together with pentatriacontane, a phytosterol, ipuranol, $C_{23}H_{48}O_2(OH)_2$, and a mixture of fatty acids.

THE ACTION OF FORMIC ACID ON CELLULOSE

was then dealt with by Messrs. Cross and Bevan *à propos* of a supposed cellulose triformate, which has been placed on the market recently. This is probably not a triformate but a complex product containing cellulose monoformate or diformate, and other substances produced by formic acid acting as (1) orthoformic acid and (2) as a carbonyl compound.

The meeting concluded with a paper by Dr. Mackenzie on the configuration of the stereo-isomeric dibromosuccinic acids.

CHEMICALS AND DRUGS valued at 1,123,833*l.* were imported into Mexico during 1910, as compared with 965,572*l.* in 1909.

LEGAL REPORTS.

TRADE LAW.

Duration of Apprenticeship.—In the case of Prosser & Sons v. Griffin, which came before the North London Magistrate the other day, the defendant was bound to the plaintiffs for five years from January 21, 1906, but for two and a quarter years he had been absent from his work, and the plaintiffs urged that he had to make up that lost time. The Magistrate (Mr. d'Eyncourt) held, however, that Griffin's apprenticeship terminated five years after the date of the deed, and that he is now free.

What is "Soda"?—At Old Street Police Court, London, on June 8, Athill Bros. (trading as "Eickhoff Bros."), oil and colour men, Bethnal Green Road, were fined 20*s.*, and five guineas costs, under the Merchandise Marks Act, 1887, for selling as soda a mixture of 30 per cent. of sodium carbonate and 61 per cent. of Glauber's salt. Mr. Kerby appeared for the prosecutors, and Mr. Kirby (Neve, Beck & Kirby) for the defence. Mr. A. G. Salamon, F.I.C., F.C.S., was the expert witness for the prosecution. The defence was that the defendants had acted in ignorance, and could not therefore be convicted; but the Magistrate (Mr. Biron) refuted that contention, and, relying on Fowler v. Crisp, held that "Soda" is a trade description for sodium-carbonate crystals.

Factory Ceilings.—At the Old Street, London, Police Court on June 2, two summonses under the Factory and Workshops Act against Messrs. Crosbie & Co., drug-grinders, Bridge Mills, New North Road, N., were heard by Mr. Cluer. One was in respect to contravention of a regulation which requires that ceilings or tops of rooms and other parts of factories which have not been painted with oil or varnished within seven years are to be limewashed within every fourteen months. The second summons was for failing to enter such periodical limewashing in the register prescribed for that purpose. The defence was that the place was frequently cleaned out. The defendants grind large quantities of gum, and in consequence limewash peels off in damp weather, and they objected to the pieces falling into the articles being ground. The Magistrate read from the regulations: "Paint with oil or varnish and wash with soap and hot water every fourteen months." He added, "Hot water, you notice, not warm. I daresay the gentlemen who made these regulations knew nothing at all about it, and do not have the walls of their homes cleaned so frequently. When you get an Act of Parliament like this, which is hard and fast, limewash your place and let it peel off, that's all." A penalty of 40*s.*, and 2*s.* costs, was imposed on the first summons, the second one not being dealt with.

Loss of Ylang-Ylang in Transit.—In the City of London Court on June 2, before Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., a claim was made by Messrs. Herbert Hymans & Co., druggists, 13 and 14 Trinity Square, E.C., against Davies Turner & Co., Ltd., 52 Lime Street, E.C., for the sum of 3*l.* 15*s.* for the loss of 10 oz. of essential oil of ylang-ylang, owing to the defendants' negligence as carriers and forwarding agents. Mr. Hymans, the plaintiff, stated that on January 13 last he caused to be sent to the defendants a box containing three bottles of 1 lb. each of essential oil of ylang-ylang. The oil was packed securely for carriage to New York, the parcel being delivered to defendants at 4 p.m. Next morning at 11 o'clock he had a telephone message from defendants, and as a result sent a packer to their place. He found one of the bottles broken, but managed to save 6 oz. of the oil. The claim was for the rest at 6*s.* 2*d.* per oz., which was less than the London market value. Delivery of the parcel to the defendants by an office-boy was proved, also its receipt, when it was admitted that there was nothing peculiar about the parcel, which was put on the American shelf. The question as to the probability of the parcel having been dropped in the street was discussed in Court, but his Honour came to the conclusion, after consideration, that as the defendants gave a clean receipt when they received the oil the plaintiffs were entitled to judgment for the amount claimed, with costs, although he had some doubt about it.

Pharmacy Act, 1868.

IS BELLADONNA PLASTER SCHEDULED?

At the Edmonton County Court before Judge Tindal Atkinson, on June 1, J. A. Gower, drug-store keeper, South Street, Ponders End, was sued by the Pharmaceutical Society for a penalty of 5*l.* incurred by his selling belladonna plaster contrary to Section 15.

Mr. Lawless, barrister, represented the Society, and the defendant appeared in person. His defence was that belladonna plaster is exempt from the scheduling provisions.

Mr. Lawless pointed out that under the Act of 1908, in which a new schedule of poisons was substituted for the old one, the words occur in Part I. of the Schedule :

"Belladonna and all preparations or admixtures (except belladonna-plaster) containing 0.1 or more per cent. of belladonna alkaloids."

Then at the end of Part II. there is the clause :

"All preparations or admixtures which are not included in Part I. of this schedule and contain a poison within the meaning of the Pharmacy Acts," etc.

He urged, however, that only that part of Section 17 of the 1868 Act which requires the box, vessel, wrapper, or cover in which poison is contained to be distinctly labelled, etc., was affected by Part I., whereas Section 15 (under which the proceedings were taken) was a general section, and applied to all poisons, so that belladonna plaster was brought within the words "all preparations or admixtures which are not included in Part I." Belladonna plaster was excepted only for the purpose of Section 17.

His Honour : What is the object ?—Mr. Lawless replied that apparently Parliament said that belladonna plaster was not such a serious thing as to be brought within the provisions of Section 17, which was a much more stringent section.

His Honour : But Section 17 applies equally as much to a registered chemist as to an unregistered chemist.—Counsel : Yes.

In the course of further argument Mr. Lawless said that Part I. recognised that belladonna plaster was a poison, but Parliament might have thought that a person would not consume a plaster.*

George Waldock proved the purchase, and Mr. Thomas Tickle deposed that he analysed the plaster and found that it contained 0.36 of a grain of the belladonna alkaloids—a fatal quantity.

The defendant said that he had no wish to act as a chemist when he was not, but he saw in the Schedule that belladonna plaster was excepted. But for that he would not have sold it.

His Honour observed that he did not think there was any suggestion that he had done wrong wilfully. If he had committed an offence it was by reason of the difficulty of interpreting the Act.

Mr. Lawless : We asked him to admit that the plaster contained poison, and he refused to admit anything, and we had to bring our witnesses here.

Defendant said that his father had had a business at Manor Park as an unqualified man and had sold the plasters for twenty years. He was with him until he was nineteen, and was going to try to get through the examination, but he could not run to the expense. So he took this shop at Ponders End. He had not heard of any previous conviction for selling belladonna plasters.

Mr. Lawless : We have had cases in Scotland similar to this, but I don't know that we have had one in England.

His Honour : Has the point been the subject of appeal?

Mr. Lawless : No; it was decided in favour of the Society.

His Honour : It is a cumbrous way of doing it.

Mr. Lawless : It is the best procedure the Legislature could give in favour of the defendant.

His Honour : I am not talking about that. The Act is misleading.

Mr. Lawless : At first I was quite confused myself, and I understand a layman being so.

His Honour : I am anything but clear upon it. I have grave doubts about it. I shall take time carefully to consider it.

Mr. Lawless : I thought it was pretty plain when worked out.

His Honour : What seems so remarkable is that Part I. expressly excepts belladonna plaster, and it was not necessary to have done anything of the kind. If the last clause of the second part would have brought it in, it looks as if it were the intention to except it altogether.

* The exemption is, of course, to that part of Section 17 which requires sales of preparations containing 0.1 or more per cent. of the alkaloids to be entered in the poison-book. That is all that belladonna-plasters are exempt from.—EDITOR C. & D.

Mr. Lawless : You see that in Part I. there are all deadly poisons.

His Honour : It is clear it should not be exempted.

Mr. Lawless : Probably it did not occur to the Legislature that an infant might put a belladonna plaster in its mouth. I suppose, thinking that a plaster was only applied externally, they considered it would be sufficient to put it in the general proviso of Part II.

His Honour : If they had left out the words "except belladonna plaster" from Part I., it is perfectly clear that belladonna plaster would have been within the general clause.

Mr. Lawless said then it would have come within Part I.

Defendant said that belladonna plasters could be bought at any chemist's by a child of five.

His Honour : I will give judgment now, and you can appeal. The question is whether the defendant sold a poison as defined by the Act of 1908. This plaster contained more than 0.1 or more per cent. of belladonna, and therefore it contained a poison within the meaning of the Act, but it is not a poison within Part I. of the Schedule. The Legislature has certainly dealt with the matter rather clumsily, because, having excepted belladonna plaster from Part I., it appears to have revived it by the general words in Part II. The Act is framed in such a way that it might mislead anyone, and if I had any discretion the penalty would not exceed 1s. But I have no discretion, and the Act requires me to give judgment for 5l. I will stay execution for twenty-one days, and if defendant likes he can give notice of appeal to the Divisional Courts, and they may arrive at another conclusion. There is plenty of room.

The Society was granted costs.

BANKRUPTCY REPORTS.

Re Richard Childe, 560 Coleridge Road, Sheffield, drug-store proprietor.—The first meeting of creditors of this debtor was held at the Official Receiver's offices, Bank Street, Sheffield, on May 31. The liabilities amounted to 104l., and the assets were estimated to produce 14l. It appeared that the debtor started trading eight years ago, having a capital of 10l., and continued until about a month ago. The failure was attributed to lack of capital and bad trade. The debtor had been sued by creditors during the past twelve months. He had to sell his furniture in order to pay the costs of the petition. The Official Receiver remains trustee.

Re Arthur Mason, Milton Road, Oakham, drug-store proprietor.—The statement of accounts herein show unsecured debts amounting to 399l. 19s. 7d., assets valued at 151l. 5s. 1d., and a deficiency of 348l. 14s. 6d. Debtor, in giving the cause of his failure states: "Not being a qualified chemist I was put to the expense of having to engage a qualified man for some time in 1907 and 1908-9; consequently my profits were insufficient to provide working expenses and the cost of living. I have been further handicapped by lack of capital." Debtor commenced business under the style of "Mason's Drug-stores" in 1902 with a capital of 70l. Four years ago he had to pay fines amounting to 35l. for contravening the provisions of the Pharmacy Act. This brought him into financial difficulties, and legal proceedings have been continually brought against him by creditors during the last eighteen months. The business is being carried on by the Official Receiver.

GAZETTE.

Partnerships Dissolved.

ANDERSON, J. G., and TURNER, W. F., Basingstoke, chemists. WILSON, SMITHETT & Co., Mincing Lane, London, E.C., colonial and tea brokers; so far as regards Sydney John Wilson.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

RECEIVING ORDERS.

BARBER, EDWARD BARKER, Western Park, Sheffield, surgeon. COWDY, SAMUEL HOWELL PERCIVAL, High Street, Aston New Town, Birmingham, late Warwick Drug-stores, Sparkbrook, Birmingham, drug-stores proprietor.

ADJUDICATIONS.

GREEN, HARRY RICHES, Long Street, Wotton-under-Edge, druggist. MASON, ARTHUR, Melton Road, Oakham, Rutland, drug-stores proprietor.

LIMITED COMPANIES.

New Companies Registered.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907, and R.O., Registered Office.

NORTHERN TIN BOX CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. The first directors are E. N. Jackson and W. T. Sutton.

SWINDON AERATED-WATER SUPPLY CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. The first directors are F. Carrier (managing director) and J. Winslow. R.O., Cromby Street, Swindon, Wilts.

LYNROCK NATURAL MINERAL-WATER SYNDICATE, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of mineral-water manufacturers carried on at Lynton, Devon, as the Lynrock Water Co.

TELEPHONE DISINFECTING CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 2,000*l.* Objects: To carry on the business indicated by the title. The first directors are C. E. Evans and A. E. Withers. R.O., Finsbury Chambers, 76 Finsbury Pavement, E.C.

FARQUHAR & WHITE, LTD. (P.C.).—Registered in Edinburgh. Capital 3,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of dental manufacturers, etc. The first directors are A. K. Farquhar and T. White. R.O., 68 Gordon Street, Glasgow.

HORTON'S LIQUID SOAP, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 40,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business carried on at 71 Darville Road, Stoke Newington, N., as "Towne & West," and at 245 Shaftesbury Avenue, W., as the Horton Liquid Soap Co.

BARYTA, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 150,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in photographic paper, etc., and to adopt an agreement with the London Venture Corporation, Ltd. The first directors are H. Aspden, S. Barber, and C. L. Bemrose. R.O., 5 Moorgate Street, E.C.

MASON & SONS, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business carried on at Gomersal, Yorks, as "Mason & Wood," and to carry on the business of soap, soap-powder, and chemical manufacturers, drysalters, etc. The first directors are G. W. Mason and S. M. Mason. R.O., Butt Mills, Gomersal.

LONDON SALT CO. (1911), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 15,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of the London Salt Co., Ltd., carried on at Canal Bank, Albany Road, Camberwell, S.E., and to carry on the business of salt, oil, and vinegar merchants, etc. The first directors are H. Seddon, Mrs. E. Seddon, R. Seddon, and F. Seddon. R.O. at above address.

MIDDLEWICH SALT CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 50,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over all or part (1) of the business carried on by John Sheffield at Tetton Salt Works, near Middlewich, and (2) of the salt business carried on by H. N. Morris & Co., Ltd., and to carry on the same and the business of chemical manufacturers, etc. The first directors are C. Gardner, H. N. Morris, F. J. Poole, J. Sheffield, and J. H. Smythe. R.O., Haworth's Buildings, Cross Street, Manchester.

Company News.

TASKER KEYS & CO., LTD.—Adjourned examination T. S. Keys at Edmonton County Court on June 29, at 10 A.M.

RUBINE EMBROCATION CO., LTD.—To be voluntarily wound-up. Liquidator: Mr. Norman P. Volckman, 16 Dartmouth Street, London, S.W. Meeting of creditors at above address on June 19, at 10.30 A.M.

BRITISH LIQUID AIR CO., LTD.—Report of liquidator at meeting to be held at the offices of La Société l'Air Liquide, 43 Rue St. Lazare, Paris, on July 3, at noon. Solicitors for liquidators: Lawrance, Webster, Messer & Nicholls, 14 Old Jewry Chambers, London, E.C.

COMPANIES' REGISTER.—An order gazetted on May 30 states that the undermentioned companies will be struck off the register at the expiration of three months from that date, unless cause be shown to the contrary: Bailey's Remedies, Ltd.; Kay's Mineral-water Co., Ltd.

THE DISPENSARY (PENANG), LTD.—The directors' report for the year ended December 31, 1910, states that after allowing for bad and doubtful debts and depreciation, and writing off one-third of the preliminary expenses, the net profit for the year amounts to \$11,560. The directors recommend a dividend of 15 per cent. (\$9,750), bonuses (one month's salary to employés (\$810), and to carry forward balance (\$1,000) to next account. Dr. James Kirk and Dr. C. Henry Hertz retire from the board, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election. The business done by the company for the first four months of the current year has been on a very satis-

factory scale. The number of prescriptions dispensed likewise reached a record for the period, necessitating an enlargement of the dispensing department by taking adjoining premises.

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT CO., LTD.—At the forty-sixth general meeting held at Cannon Street Hotel, London, E.C., on June 1, the Chairman (Mr. C. E. Gunther), in moving the adoption of the report and accounts (*C. & D.*, May 27, index folio 780), said he thought there was good reason to be satisfied with the year's labours, "seeing that once more we are in a position to recommend the payment of a 2½ per cent. bonus in addition to a 20 per cent. dividend on the ordinary shares, to place another 30,000*l.* to the reserve fund, and to carry forward the substantial amount of 40,000*l.* odd to profit and loss new account. On the European side the general trade has been satisfactory, the consumption of their products by hospitals and public institutions showing a gratifying increase. The strengthening of land and cattle provision was obligatory, as prices for cattle are always tending upwards." The resolution was carried unanimously.

BIRTHS.

ELLIS.—At 1 Harleyford Road, Vauxhall, London, S.E., on June 4, the wife of Frederick Ellis, pharmacist (Penzance), of a daughter.

LOTHIAN.—At Over Possil, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow, on June 3, the wife of John Lothian, Ph.C., of a son.

WEIGHT.—At 20 Airedale Road, Wandsworth Common, London, S.W., on June 1, the wife of F. Weight (representing Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Sons), of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

EXELL—ABBOTT.—At Christ Church, Southgate, London, N., by the Rev. C. F. Peploe, on June 3, Arthur Exell, pharmacist, fourth son of Mr. Edmund Exell M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Sheffield, to Blanche, second daughter of Mr. John S. Abbott, "Triberg," Palmer's Green, London, N.

FOWDEN—CLEATHERON.—The wedding of W. J. Vaughan Fowden, chemist and druggist, of Altrincham, to Florence Elizabeth Cleatheron, daughter of an ex-mayor of the town, took place last week.

FRESSON—DAY.—At Christ Church, Bridlington, on June 3, Charles S. Fresson, chemist and druggist, 3 William Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, to Edith Mary Day, of Bridlington.

MELVILLE—WITTE.—At 50 Dudley Gardens, Leith, on June 3, by the Rev. R. A. Reid, M.A., Kirkgate U.F. Church, John Melville, pharmacist, Dundee, to Ernestine Witte.

NORTHEY—CHILTON.—At St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead, on June 1, by the Rev. B. A. Duke, M.A., William George Northey, pharmacist, Maidenhead, to Laura Blanche, younger daughter of the late Mr. Benjamin Chilton, of Parkhurst, Princes Risboro', Bucks.

OLIPHANT—BLACK.—At Pittendreich, Kinross, on June 3, by the Rev. B. Martin, M.A., Leslie, assisted by the Rev. W. G. Alexander, M.A., Balgedie, Robert Brand Oliphant, Edinburgh, to Jeanie, eldest daughter of the late James Black, J.P., chemist, Leslie, Fife.

SMITH—FROST.—At Green Hill Wesleyan Church, Derby, on June 5, John Clayton Smith, chemist and druggist, Birmingham, to Ethel Maud, third daughter of Mr. Thomas Frost, 333 Normanton Road, Derby.

STRONACH—MORTIMER.—At 2 Monifeith Road, Broughty Ferry, on June 3, by the Rev. James Leask, D.D., Harry Millar Stronach, engineer, to Christian, only daughter of Mr. D. A. Mortimer, chemist, Broughty Ferry.

DEATHS.

BARKER.—At Grimsby, on June 1, Mr. William Barker, Ph.C., of Victor Street, Oxford Street, and Grimsby Road, Grimsby, aged forty-eight. Mr. Barker, who had been in business in Grimsby for twenty-five years, was in his usual health until Tuesday of last week, when an abscess

in his ear compelled him to keep to his room. The abscess burst inwardly on the following Thursday with fatal results. Mr. Barker took a prominent part for a quarter of a century as a Conservative in the town's political life. He had unostentatiously assisted the poor in the neighbourhood, and his influence in the district was very far-reaching. He leaves a widow and two children. The interment took place at Scarlhoe Cemetery on June 5, and was very largely attended. The Grimsby Chemists' and Druggists' Association sent a beautiful floral tribute, and was represented by Messrs. T. D. Sneath, R. C. Johnson, and J. Wharton. Sir George and Lady Doughty sent a wreath and letter of condolence. A feature each Saturday (writes our correspondent) was the crowd of poor children in the neighbourhood, ninety-five per cent. being without shoes or stockings, to whom the deceased gave a halfpenny.

BROOKS.—On May 9, of plague, Dr. John Brooks, senior member of the firm of Brooks & Co., wholesale druggists, Karachi. Our correspondent writes: "Besides being one of the best-known and most-respected practitioners in Karachi, he was a sterling friend to the various drug-travellers who visited the capital of Sind. 'Honest John,' as he was popularly called, will be sadly missed and mourned."

DAVIS.—At 18 Tewit Well Avenue, on June 2, Mr. Richard Hayton Davis, aged seventy-eight. Mr. Davis, who



Mr. R. H. Davis.

was the *doyen* of Harrogate pharmacy, retired from business early last year after sixty-three years' connection with pharmacy, of which fifty-one were spent in Harrogate. Mr. Davis's interesting personality showed even at a late period the effects of his early training. In a letter to us he told us that in his early days errand boys were superfluities. The sweeping of the shop and cleaning of the windows devolved upon the junior. Changing the water in the leech-jar, and using the big pestle and mortar, were daily duties for apprentices and assistants. Proprietary goods were comparatively few, and glycerin and boric acid were unknown as articles of commerce. Mr. Davis was apprenticed for six years at Kendal, and he then took two months' training in the laboratories of the School of Pharmacy, London. He passed the Major examination in July 1853. Mr. Davis married a niece of Michael Faraday, to whom he was related. A question by Faraday if he had ever analysed the Harrogate waters led to important results for Mr. Davis. For many years he acted as borough analyst of medicinal waters. He held situations in London and the provinces before settling down at Harrogate, and was with Messrs. Mawson & Swan, Mosley Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, at the same time as Sir Thomas Barclay. At Harrogate he had two businesses, one in James Street and the other in Regent Parade. He was a regular attendant at the latter pharmacy until his retirement. Mr. Davis was one of the founders of the local Literary Society.

ECCLES.—At the Private Nursing Hospital, Belfast, on June 2, after an operation, Evelyn S., wife of Mr. R. I. Eccles, Ph.C., The Square, Athy, Co. Kildare.

GILL.—On June 4, Mr. Hugh Gill, pharmaceutical chemist, Melrose, Derby Road, Freshfield, Lancs, aged seventy-five.

MORGAN.—On May 25, Mr. William Morgan, chemist and druggist, Park Street, Rhosddu, Wrexham, aged sixty-three.

MASON.—At Newquay, Cornwall, on June 1, Mr. Thomas Mason, chemist and druggist, head of the firm of Messrs.

Newball & Mason, manufacturing chemists, aged sixty-seven. Mr. Mason had been in indifferent health for some years, but the end came as a shock to his friends. He had been a hard worker since he was a boy of fifteen, when he went to Nottingham as apprentice to the late Mr. T. A. Newball, then in business as a chemist at Derby Road, Nottingham. He passed the Modified examination in February 1871, and a year later he acquired the business, Mr. Newball retiring. He proposed to trade as "Mason, late Newball," but at Mr. Newball's suggestion he adopted the style of "Newball & Mason." In



Mr. T. Mason.

1875 Mr. Mason married Mr. Newball's daughter, and she was a great help to him in his business, which was a brisk one, with town and country connection for drugs and household medicines generally, and it might have gone on until this day, but Mr. Mason was a man of enterprise and keen to see the possibilities of a good thing when brought under his notice. His well-known "Extract of Herbs" originated through a chance remark by an old country lady who came regularly to Mr. Mason's shop for a supply of herbs to make beer. One day she said to him, "Can't you make all these things into a liquid for me, to save the trouble of boiling?" Thereupon he commenced making experiments, and as a result Mason's "Extract" was produced. This became a regular stock article in 1875, being put up then exactly as it is now. Soon after this Mr. Benjamin Deaville became an apprentice with Mr. Mason, and his time was largely devoted to the extract department, with the result that at the end of his three years' apprenticeship he decided not to follow up pharmacy, but to go in for the manufacturing side, if Mr. Mason agreed. The result was that a factory for extract of herbs and other preparations was started in Park Row, and the business grew so well that in 1890 a larger factory was acquired in Hyson Green, and again in 1903 a magnificent factory was acquired at Sherwood Rise and considerably extended to meet their requirements. Mr. Mason had long before that given up retail pharmacy and devoted all his time to the manufacturing business, having in the meantime admitted Mr. Deaville as partner, and since 1903 he left the management of the business to Mr. Deaville. They had worked together like father and son for many years, and Mr. Mason had a very high appreciation of his young partner's abilities. Mr. Mason was very fond of horticulture, and had a charming garden at his residence in Sherwood. The funeral took place at Nottingham on Saturday, and was largely attended. Mr. Mason is survived by his second wife (who was a Miss Snowden), but there are no children.

PERCIVAL.—At 140 High Street, Walthamstow, on May 24, from pneumonia, Mr. Thomas Henry Percival, chemist and druggist, aged thirty-five. The interment took place at Chingford Mount.

SEIWRIGHT.—At The Square, Cullen, on June 3, Mr. George Seiwright, chemist and druggist, aged sixty-nine. Mr. Seiwright, who was a native of Marnoch, served his apprenticeship in Aberchirder, and afterwards was for some time in the service of Messrs. Barron, Harveys & Co. in London. He acquired the business of Mr. Lumsden about forty-four years ago, and soon worked up a large connection. He is survived by a widow.

SLOGGETT.—At 74 Alexandra Road, Mutley, Plymouth, on May 31, Mr. Thomas Chubb Sloggett, aged eighty-three. Mr. Sloggett was in business in Drake Street, Plymouth, for over forty years. He was registered as a pharmaceutical chemist in 1865. A wreath was sent to the funeral by the local Chemists' Association.

TIBBITS.—On May 29, Mr. James Reginald Tibbits, chemist and druggist, 83 Central Drive, Blackpool, and latterly of Fleetwood. Mr. Tibbits was formerly in business at 23 Market Street, Lancaster, under the style of Messrs. Whimpray & Tibbits. He sold this business to Messrs. Bate & Gorst in 1905. His widow and one child survive him.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Council-meeting.

THE monthly meeting was held at 16 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., on June 7. The first business was the election of the President, Vice-President and Treasurer, these being Mr. C. B. Allen, Mr. W. L. Currie, and Mr. W. H. Gibson respectively. The paid officers were re-appointed, and Mr. A. J. Chater was made Assistant-Secretary, with an increase of salary. The balance of the Benevolent Fund was reported as being 260*l.* better than it was this time last year, and the acting committee made grants amounting to 114*l.* The Redwood and Burroughs scholarships were awarded to Mr. W. A. Storey and Miss D. J. Bartlett respectively. The list of school-prize awards shows that the Martindale memorial medal in pharmacy has been won by Mr. James Small, who has also obtained bronze medals in materia medica and botany. The committee's report on the National Insurance Bill gives details of the work that has been accomplished by the Parliamentary Secretary in this matter. It is proposed to convene at an early date a general meeting of chemists in London to consider the Bill. In the discussion which followed the Vice-President referred to a report which was received that morning from the executive of the North British branch. Mr. Rowsell told of an interview with Mr. Duke, the M.P. for Exeter. Mr. Campkin did not think individual interviews with M.P.s altogether desirable, as these were apt to overlook the national considerations involved in the Bill, and Mr. Harrison thought every effort should be put forward to show that a body of capable men exists to enable the Government to realise the scheme in view. The Hanbury medal was awarded to M. E. Léger, of Paris, by the adjudicators. The British Pharmaceutical Conference is to meet the British Medical Association on June 15 to discuss the question of dispensing and prescribing, and the Secretaries of the Conference asked to meet representatives of the Council to learn the policy to be adopted on the National Insurance Bill.

The Councillors present were Mr. J. F. Harrington (in the chair), Mr. W. L. Currie (in the vice-chair), Mr. C. B. Allen, Mr. F. E. Bilson, Mr. A. S. Campkin, Mr. W. G. Cross, Mr. J. H. Cuff, Mr. F. J. Gibson, Mr. W. H. Gibson, Mr. R. L. Gifford, Mr. D. Gilmour, Mr. A. Hagon, Mr. J. Harrison, Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, Mr. F. A. Rogers, Mr. P. F. Rowsell, Dr. C. Symes, Mr. R. C. Walshaw, Mr. E. White, and Mr. J. R. Young.

NEW COUNCILLORS.

The minutes of the last Council-meeting and the special meeting of May 17 were read, after which the CHAIRMAN welcomed the new members of Council—Mr. Bilson and Mr. Rowsell. He pointed out that Mr. Rowsell is rejoining the Council after a short absence, and that although Mr. Bilson is new to the Council, he is well known for the valuable work and assistance he has rendered to the Society in the South of England.

Mr. ROWSELL and Mr. BILSON briefly replied.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.

The next business was the election of President for the ensuing year. This is carried through in accordance with precedent, the voting papers being deposited in a ballot-box of historical associations. The papers are then turned out by the Secretary, who calls out the name of the person for whom the vote is recorded, whilst the Chairman ticks off the votes on another list. This process having been gone through, the CHAIRMAN announced that Mr. Allen had been unanimously elected President. Investing

Mr. Allen with the chain of office, Mr. Harrington reminded him that the first link on the chain bore the name of William Allen, the first President.

The PRESIDENT, having taken the chair, thanked the Council for the confidence shown in him. He valued it very highly. William Allen to whom Mr. Harrington had alluded was a man of great scientific attainments and considerable social standing. He was a friend of the Duke of Kent, and it is related that he often held the late Queen Victoria on his knee when she was a baby. He (the speaker) could not lay claim to these attainments, but he had succeeded to what William Allen did not possess—the dignity and fame which the Society has since accumulated. He (the speaker) knew he could command the loyalty of his fellow-councillors and the permanent officers, so that his task would be considerably lightened. It was a proud moment of his life, and one he could never forget. (Applause.)

ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT AND TREASURER.

Mr. W. L. CURRIE was next, after a similar procedure, re-elected Vice-President, and in thanking the Council said it might have been that the Council had concluded that a little currie goes a long way, but whether he put spice into his remarks or not he always endeavoured to work in the interests of the Society. (Laughter.)

Mr. W. H. GIBSON was next re-elected Treasurer, and suitably thanked his colleagues.

A resolution of thanks was passed to Mr. Harrington for his services to the Society on the proposition of the PRESIDENT, seconded by Mr. YOUNG.

PAID OFFICIALS APPOINTED.

Mr. R. Bremridge was re-appointed Secretary and Registrar; Mr. E. M. Holmes, Curator; Mr. J. Humphrey, Editor of the Society's "Journal"; and Mr. J. R. Hill, Assistant-Secretary in Scotland.

Mr. YOUNG then stated that it was considered that the time has arrived when a change should be made in the status of Mr. A. J. Chater and a small addition made to his salary. He therefore moved that Mr. Chater be appointed assistant secretary at a salary of 350*l.* per annum.

Mr. GIFFORD, seconding the resolution, said that in Mr. Chater the Society has an officer of exceeding capability, geniality, and wide knowledge of the craft. He (Mr. Gifford) looked upon him years ago as a suitable man to be organising secretary.

The resolution was carried unanimously.



MR. CHATER.

The VICE-PRESIDENT suggested that a complete list of the officers of the Society should be given in the front part of the "Calendar."

The PRESIDENT said this would be considered when the new Calendar is being prepared.

The Standing Orders were adopted.

ELECTIONS AND RESTORATIONS.

Twenty-two members were elected and thirteen student associates. Forty-five persons were restored to their former position in the Society. The names of three persons were restored to the Register of Chemists and Druggists.

FINANCE.

The report of the members acting as a Finance Committee was then presented by Mr. W. H. Gibson, the following being the main features:

<i>General Fund Receipts.</i>	
Penalties and costs	£129 14 8
Subscriptions	303 9 0
"Journal" and publications	968 14 9
Restoration-fees	7 7 0
Registration-fees	105 0 0
Rent and ground-rent	77 13 9
School-fees	23 2 0
	£1,615 1 2

This with the balance remaining from the previous month made a balance of 3,327*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*, from which the following payments were recommended to be made:

"Journal" and publications ...	£768	10	7
Stationery, etc. ...	80	5	10
Current expenses ...	400	0	0
Salaries, etc. ...	875	10	0
School and examinations ...	83	11	4
Law charges ...	26	10	6
House ...	104	8	4
Library ...	4	10	2

£2,343 6 9

The following balances were shown on the Benevolent Fund:

Current account ...	£904	7	3
Donation account ...	63	15	1
Orphan Fund ...	125	6	4

The report also approved the expenditure of about 160*l.* for printing 1,000 copies of the Library Catalogue, and 167*l.* 7*s.* for installing electric light and decorating the Society's house in Edinburgh.

Mr. GIBSON, in moving the adoption of the report, drew attention to the fact that the Benevolent Fund balance is 260*l.* better than it was a year ago. He also mentioned special sums received from various pharmaceutical bodies for the Benevolent Fund.

The report was adopted, as was also a special resolution authorising the expenditure on the Edinburgh premises.

BENEVOLENCE.

The report of the acting Benevolent Fund Committee was next considered *in camera*, after which

Mr. CAMPKIN, in moving the adoption of the report, commented on the improved position of the fund notwithstanding that more money has been spent. Eight applicants received grants amounting to 114*l.* He also mentioned some cases where widows of chemists had been very opportunely assisted by the fund, and noted another instance where in conjunction with the Scottish Corporation joint contributions are being made to a chemist who is past work.

Mr. GILMOUR seconded the adoption of the report.

Mr. ROWSELL alluded to a case which he had helped to investigate, and where the assistance given was very much appreciated.

The PRESIDENT stated that another orphan has been elected to receive the benefits of the Hills Orphan Fund.

The report was adopted.

The SECRETARY asked for support for Mrs. Pimm, the widow of a chemist, who is a candidate for election to the British Home for Incurables. Mrs. Pimm has 315 votes to her credit, but requires about 700 more before she can hope to be successful.

LIBRARY, MUSEUM, SCHOOL, AND HOUSE.

The report of this committee was presented by Mr. White. It dealt with the question of printing a new catalogue of the Library, deferring to a future meeting the question as to the desirability of making a charge for the catalogues. An account amounting to 2*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* for house repairs was approved. The paragraphs referring to the school approved of the proposal to spend 5*l.* on more apparatus for the Research Laboratory, and recommended the award of the Redwood scholarship to Mr. W. A. Storey and the Burroughs scholarship to Miss Dorothy J. Bartlett. The prize distribution in connection with the school was fixed for June 21. The Society's premises are to be closed on June 22, 23, and 24 on the occasion of the Coronation.

Mr. GILMOUR asked regarding the date fixed for the prize distribution, and Mr. WHITE and the PRESIDENT explained the matter.

Mr. YOUNG remarked that as the last edition of 1,000 copies of the Library Catalogue had lasted six years, it did not seem that a rush existed which made it necessary to impose a charge for the book.

The report was adopted.

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS.

In the absence of Mr. Neathercoat through bereavement the report of the Local Associations Committee was presented by Mr. Harrington. This dealt with the meeting at Carlisle, the Holborn reception, the dinners of the Cheltenham Association, and the North Kent Association, and the advisability of continuing the "Organisation Notes"

which appear in the Society's organ. The Holborn reception was regarded as a success, and it was considered advisable to continue the "Organisation Notes."

Mr. CROSS thought a remark that the Vice-President was given authority to be present in his official capacity at the North Kent dinner was unhappily worded, but

Mr. YOUNG explained the meaning and defended the expression.

The report was adopted.

DIVISIONAL SECRETARIES.

Mr. Kenneth Nixon was appointed Divisional Secretary for the Bosworth division of Leicestershire and Mr. P. G. Richardson for Dudley.

APPRENTICES REGISTERED.

The Registrar reported that he has registered thirty-two persons as apprentices or students during the month.

DIPLOMAS SEALED.

The diplomas of the six honorary members elected last month were ordered to be sealed with the seal of the Society.

SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS.

The report of the Acting General Purposes Committee was next taken. The following awards were recommended to be made as the result of the recent examinations at the School of Pharmacy:

BOTANY.—*Bronze Medal*, James Small; *Certificates of Honour*, H. A. Phillips and S. H. Stroud (equal) and Frances A. Ost.

PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY.—*Bronze Medal*, S. H. Stroud; *Certificates of Honour*, James Small, W. Thomas, and Frank Hall (equal).

CHEMISTRY.—*Bronze Medal*, S. H. Stroud. *Certificates of Honour*, H. A. Phillips, F. A. Ost and James Small (equal).

PHARMACY.—*Martindale Memorial Medal*, James Small; *Certificates of Honour*, S. H. Stroud and F. A. Ost.

MATERIA MEDICA.—*Bronze Medal*, James Small; *Certificates of Honour*, S. H. Stroud and F. A. Ost.

NATIONAL INSURANCE BILL.

The following report of the sub-committee which is dealing with the effect of the National Insurance Bill on chemists was next brought forward.

The committee met informally on May 17 and arranged to send the Parliamentary Secretary with Professor Greenish to Germany, Austria, and Italy during the Parliamentary recess for the purpose of investigating and reporting on the conditions which exist in those countries in regard to the supply of medical and pharmaceutical services to State-insured persons as well as to members of sick societies or similar bodies. The Parliamentary Secretary reviewed the political position, and explained the action he was taking to obtain from Mr. Lloyd George an assurance that the possible effect of the Bill on the position of retail chemists should have his earnest consideration. The committee approved. In order to aid the efforts of Mr. Glyn-Jones in the House of Commons the committee arranged for communications to be sent to every divisional officer of the Society urging immediate representations to local Members of Parliament. Instructions were also given for a similar appeal to be issued by the Assistant-Secretary in Scotland to all the Scottish officers and Associations. The committee further authorised the issue to Local Associations in England and Wales of an appeal for information as to the present practice of friendly societies and similar bodies in supplying medicine to their members. As a result of the committee's action a considerable amount of local political work has been set in motion, and a material influence has been exerted upon Members of Parliament who had not realised the grave possibilities of the Bill in relation to pharmaceutical practice.

The committee met at the House of Commons on May 24 and conferred with Mr. Glyn-Jones. It again attended at the House of Commons on May 31, when it was announced that the Chancellor would consent to receive a pharmaceutical deputation on the following day. Though only a few hours were available for preparation, a strong representative delegation was selected, and the result may be stated in the following report which the Chancellor has himself authorised for publication (see page 39). It is apparent to the committee that the attitude of the Minister necessitates the exertion of the strongest possible effort on the part of the pharmacists of Great Britain to bring home to their individual Parliamentary Members the justice and reasonableness of the claims urged by the deputation. The committee, subject to

the approval of the Council, accordingly proposes to convene in London at an early date a general meeting of chemists to consider the best means of securing concerted and effective action among pharmacists. The committee further asks that it may be reappointed with power to associate with its work any pharmacists who may be in a position to offer special assistance in a Parliamentary direction.

The committee desires to express its indebtedness to Mr. Glyn-Jones and the officers associated with him for the prompt, earnest, and persistent manner in which they have endeavoured to place before the Government the pharmaceutical aspect of the National Insurance question.

The PRESIDENT said that everything that is possible has been done in the matter. He regarded the interview with Mr. Lloyd George as extremely valuable. The deputation was representative, and the principles laid down are what pharmacists should concentrate their attention upon. He was impressed with the way the Chancellor of the Exchequer received the deputation and the apparent interest with which he listened to the views of the deputation. Mr. Lloyd George was specially interested when told that Mr. Glyn-Jones and Professor Greenish were starting on a tour to Germany to study the methods of working the insurance scheme in that country. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said that was an extremely valuable thing to do, and he hoped that the results of the researches would be available to the Government. He (Mr. Allen), on behalf of the President, promised that this should be done. It must be remembered that whilst the deputation found a sympathetic Minister, chemists will have to fight hard for every position there is to gain. The best policy is to agitate for amendments which will embody the principles laid down by the deputation—indeed this is the policy advised by the Minister himself. Chemists must, above all, show a united front, as unless this is done nothing will be gained. It was noticeable that during the interview certain trade papers* were handed up to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to read, which may be taken as indicating that everything comes within the ken of the Chancellor. If chemists show signs of disruption, disintegration will take place, and chemists will not then be able to impress Ministers.

The VICE-PRESIDENT asked if any report had been received from Scotland.

The PRESIDENT replied that a report had arrived that morning from the North British Executive, but there had not been time either to read it or digest the views contained in it.

The VICE-PRESIDENT pointed out that the questions sent out to Scottish members were different; they were in his opinion more to the point, as they stuck to the Bill more than did those sent out by headquarters. The replies came in quickly and, in addition, an enormous amount of correspondence was received. These have been epitomised in the report transmitted to the Council, and embody an enormous amount of detail. In addition, the General Purposes Committee decided that as unanimity is desirable it would be better not to leave it to members to express their own ideas to Members of Parliament, but to suggest a form of letter to use. Many Members of Parliament have been interviewed—the Lord Advocate and the Attorney-General for Scotland—and it is hoped to see the Prime Minister within the next few days. The Vice-President concluded his speech with a few vigorous sentences on the lines of "Scotland does not take things lying down."

Mr. ROWSELL related that he had formed one of a deputation to Mr. Duke, M.P. for Exeter, who told them that he (Mr. Duke) wished Mr. Glyn-Jones had started on his visit to Germany before. He (the speaker) did not see how chemists could be other than united on the issues in hand, and if united there is no doubt but that chemists will get every legitimate demand.

Mr. CAMPKIN suggested that it would be as well to leave much of the discussion in the hands of the committee appointed for the purpose. When the Bill is more thoroughly understood it may be necessary to have another interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

* THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of May 27 is here referred to. It was handed to the Chancellor by one of his secretaries. The cartoon and verses on p. 56 appeared to amuse Mr. Lloyd George, who also read other passages about the Bill.

He did not agree with the suggestion that chemists should interview Members of Parliament individually, because the views of the individual are as a rule too small to bring to bear on national affairs. The opinions of chemists should be collected, but the suggestions laid before the Government should not go beyond what the committee consider desirable. It is not advisable to put the bread-and-butter question to the fore, but the good of the State. The way in which these views are brought to bear on the nation will determine the success of chemists in this matter.

Mr. GILMOUR said that the attention of the members should be concentrated on the points laid down by the deputation. It is not possible, he thought, to keep back the bread-and-butter question, because they had the assurance of the Chancellor that vested interests would not be interfered with. It is also necessary after the lesson of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act to have the assurances of Ministers embodied in the Bill.

Mr. HARRISON said that chemists have only to discuss that portion of the Bill which affects their calling. The ground covered is small, but it touches chemists so closely that no difference of opinion can arise. Chemists are interested in the supply of medicines, and the Bill provides for medical attendance and medicines for all who come within its scope. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has laid it down that the prescribing and supplying of medicines shall be separate. It is for chemists to show him that there exists a body of men who are especially trained to supply the medicines. It should be clearly and distinctly shown that this provides the machinery required. From the point of view of utility to the public there is nothing to compete with chemists for the position. The guarantee that it will work consists in the fact that the patient, prescriber, and pharmacist loyally co-operating to bring about the result desired by the authorities, each class is an automatic check against any irregularity that may arise. He believed it would be possible to make an arrangement with the State satisfactory to chemists, but the present is a critical time in which the committee will need all the support they can obtain to ensure the best results to the community and the Society.

The PRESIDENT said the discussion will be read with interest by all the members. The thanks of the Council are due to the executive of the North British branch for the thorough report they have sent. He had no doubt that there will be a chance of more than one interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The report was adopted and the committee re-appointed, with the addition of Mr. Harrington and Mr. Rowsell.

The committee of the Council were next appointed, with the alterations rendered necessary by the changes in the *personnel* of the Council.

HANBURY MEDAL.

The report of the adjudicators of the Hanbury medal was next read. The recipient of the medal this year is M. Eugène Léger, of Paris, who, in acknowledging the award, writes that he hopes to be present in October to receive the medal personally.

Mr. WHITE said it is an honour to the Society to have associated with it such a man.

It was left with the President to select a person to deliver the Inaugural Sessional Address in October.

POISON SALE PENALTIES.

The Privy Council forwarded a copy of a letter from Mr. G. H. Richards in regard to prosecutions instituted in respect of the sale of XL-All preparations. The Treasury have also been in correspondence with the Society relative to a letter from the Society of Traders in Poisonous Compounds for Trade Purposes, asking for the return of thirteen penalties obtained by the Society for the illegal sale of poison. As a result, the Treasury are informing the Traders in Poisonous Compounds that they "regret that they are unable to direct the return of any part of the penalties."

DISPENSING AND PRESCRIBING.

The Secretaries of the British Pharmaceutical Conference informed the Council that there is to be a meeting on June 15 in conjunction with the British Medical

Association, of the Joint Standing Committee which is considering the question of the separation of prescribing and dispensing. The B.P.C. portion of the committee would be glad to meet the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society with a view to assisting the policy the Society is adopting on the National Insurance scheme.

Mr. WHITE said the meeting would be useful as feeling the medical pulse. He also commented on the fact that the question which has been under discussion for some time has now been forced to the front by the National Insurance Bill.

The PRESIDENT agreed that the Council should give the British Pharmaceutical Conference their views and encouragement.

After further discussion it was agreed that the President and Mr. White should see the B.P.C. members of the committee on the morning of June 15.

OTHER MATTERS.

The Middlesborough Association forwarded a resolution urging the placing of diachylon in the second part of the poison schedule.

The Mansfield Association wrote expressing satisfaction at the visit of Mr. Newsholme.

The Decimal Association invited the Society to nominate representatives on an Advisory Committee. It was suggested that, as the matter is especially interesting to wholesalers, Mr. White should be nominated. Mr. CROSS hoped that the appointment would not be interpreted as meaning that the Council agreed with the views of the Decimal Association. Mr. White was appointed "to keep in touch with the Association."

The honorary members elected at the last meeting sent letters of thanks.

The Queen's University, Belfast, inquired whether the Council would accept the Matriculation Certificate of the University as has been done hitherto in the case of the Royal University, now extinguished. The Council agreed to recognise the new certificate.

The Society of Chemical Industry wrote again regarding the representation of the Pharmaceutical Society at the Eighth International Congress of Applied Chemistry at Washington in 1912. The PRESIDENT said the matter was "outside pharmacy," and nothing further would be done.

The Civil Service Commissioners thanked the Council for the use of the Society's dispensary for examination purposes in April.

The Lincoln Association wrote urging that an amendment be inserted in the Shops Bill in regard to meal-times on market days.

The Privy Council sent a copy of an Act passed by the Province of Quebec regulating the sale of cocaine and other habit-forming drugs.

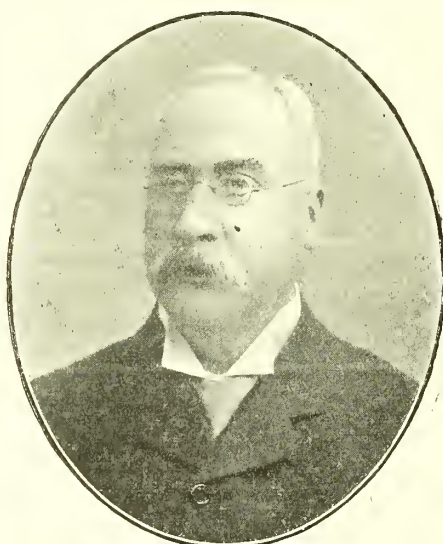
A number of resolutions were also received from local Associations relative to the National Insurance Bill. These are to be passed on to the Parliamentary Committee.

This was all the public business.

The New President.

MR. CHARLES BOWEN ALLEN, pharmaceutical chemist, who was on Wednesday elected President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, carries on business at 20 High Road, Kilburn, London, N.W. He was born in 1853 of Cornish parents, and on December 31, 1866, was apprenticed to Mr. J. S. Harvey, of Penzance, for five and a-half years, where he learned the business in the old-fashioned way, involving a closer acquaintance with crude drugs and pharmaceutical operations than is customary at the present day. His apprenticeship completed, Mr. Allen came to London, devoted a few weeks to study, entered for the Minor examination, and passed at the age of nineteen—in those days the present age-limit had not been imposed. Four years afterwards he took the Major qualification, having in the meantime obtained experience with Mr. T. M. Clarke, at Richmond, and John Bell & Co., Oxford Street, W. The business at Kilburn, which Mr. Allen acquired in 1876, was established in 1846, and was originally an open surgery, passing through other hands before Mr. Allen bought it. Since the pharmacy has been owned by

Mr. Allen it has acquired an enviable reputation which Mr. Allen's two sons, who assist him, are in every way maintaining. Mr. Allen was co-opted a member of the Council



MR. C. B. ALLEN.

of the Pharmaceutical Society in 1885 on the resignation of Mr. F. Andrews, and has served thereon ever since except for an interval of two years, when he was obliged to sever his connection with the Council owing to business pressure. Mr. Allen was Vice-President in 1900, and during his term of office, owing to several circumstances, received a very good insight into the duties of the higher office which will stand him in good stead during the present time of stress and strain. Mr. Allen is a working pharmacist, and has acquired an excellent reputation for business organisation. Many hints on special subjects have been communicated to the trade through the *C. & D.* As long ago as 1834 Mr. Allen contributed a note on proprietary medicines *à propos* of a label he had in use disclaiming responsibility for the efficacy of secret remedies. The advisability of employing such a label is subject to a difference of opinion, but the matter is recalled to show that Mr. Allen does not belong to the school of pharmacists who would die with their backs to the wall rather than meet in a reasonable spirit fresh situations as they arise. Of Mr. Allen's pharmacy it remains to be stated that the conditions under which the business is carried on are somewhat of the ideal which most men strive after. All galenicals are made on the premises, and the personal note is maintained by Mr. Allen and his sons. The whole of the premises are devoted to the business, and although the superficial area of the shop-front is comparatively small, the depth of the premises and the upstairs rooms enable ample space to be devoted to the various departments.

BOTANY IN CEYLON.—"The Times" prints a letter from Dr. Wyndham Dunstan, replying to the letter from Cambridge which we quoted last week. Dr. Dunstan says: "The letter reproduces, without the context, a single sentence from a memorandum of mine. . . . The letter seeks chiefly to justify Dr. Willis's position as a botanist, which has not been called in question. Neither have the services which Peradeniya has rendered to the botanical workers who have visited it been questioned."

THE Board of Trade have received a copy of a Customs Administrative Circular from the Philippine Islands providing that Customs entries for consignments consisting wholly or in part of liquid, medicinal, and toilet preparations, flavouring extracts, and all other preparations in which, excluding the water, distilled spirits form the chief ingredient (which are liable to internal revenue tax), will only be accepted when accompanied by certain Bureau of Internal Revenue Forms (No. 369 or 372), together with an original, carbon, or certified copy of each commercial invoice for articles subject to internal revenue tax, in addition to the invoices required for Customs purposes.

TRADE REPORT.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock, after which much expense may be incurred in garbling and the like. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are charged for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, therefore, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at the prices quoted here.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., June 8.

THIS has been a broken week on the markets, and with the holiday spirit abroad, business has been on restricted lines, with few and unimportant price-alterations. The hot weather has induced an excellent demand for mineral-water-making materials, especially lemon oil and tartaric acid, both of which are firm. Bergamot oil is again higher, as was expected, with little offering on the spot. Lemongrass oil is also scarce and higher. Lime juice is dearer and in demand. Both crude and refined camphor continue slow. Soudan acacia is firm on spot, but dearer for arrival. Jalap is more or less nominal. Lithia carbonate is in steady demand. Menthol and peppermint oils are exceedingly quiet. Japan wax is steady. Quicksilver has fluctuated sixpence either way in second-hands. Copper sulphate, ammonia sulphate, and shellac are cheaper. Turpentine is dearer. A sale of first-hand drugs only will be held next week. The following are the principal changes since our last issue:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Bergamot oil Lemongrass oil Lemon juice Lime juice Lime seed oil Pepper	Quicksilver (sec. hands) Turpentine	Copper sulphate Peppermint oil (Jap.) Shellac	Ammonia sulphate

London Markets.

ANISE OIL (STAR).—Small sales of "Red Ship" brand have been made at 4s. 10d. spot, and for June-August shipment 4s. 4d. c.i.f. has been paid.

ARROWROOT in quiet demand, sales comprising about 200 barrels St. Vincent at from 2d. to 2½d. per lb.

BALSAM COPAIBA meets with a jobbing demand at from 1s. 10d. to 1s. 10½d. per lb for B.P. filtered.

BENZOIN.—The only arrival is 20 cases of Palembang. Good Sumatra seconds such as offered last week is obtainable at 8l. 7s. 6d. per cwt., and a few more cases changed hands at this price.

BERGAMOT OIL is again higher, agents asking 19s. 6d. to 20s. per lb. c.i.f. A Palermo advice of June 3 reports that this oil still remains in a position that precludes the possibility of exporting direct until intermediate stocks are absorbed. Transactions during the week were on behalf of local buyers in urgent need of the goods to meet previous engagements, and those were effected at even higher prices than those of last week.

BUCHU.—The *Briton* from Cape Town has brought 78 packages, of which 10 are for Hamburg and 10 for New York, and presumably the balance is for London. Of the remainder it is presumed that about 22 packages are round and 32 packages are oval leaf. Very little interest has been shown in the market this week, the value of good green round being 4s. 8d. and ordinary 4s. 6d., ovals from 1s. 10d. to 2s. 3d. as to quality; genuine longs remained scarce and wanted. After the sale last week 4s. 8d. was paid for good green to fill a small export order.

CAMPHOR (CRUDE) remains slow of sale, China offering at 160s. on the spot and at 150s. c.i.f. The Japanese monopoly still quote 150s. for B.B. and 142s. 6d. for B., c.i.f. terms to arrive.

CAMPHOR (REFINED).—Quiet, with sellers of Japanese slabs at 1s. 6½d. c.i.f. for June-July shipment, and at 1s. 6d. per lb. on the spot.

CASTOR OIL steady. Hull make of pharmaceutical quality is offered at 30l. 10s. and firsts at 28l. per ton, in barrels, for July-December delivery, oil in cases being 50s. per ton extra.

CINCHONA.—The shipments from Java during May amounted to 1,450,000 Amsterdam lb., against 1,368,000 Amst. lb. in 1910, 1,319,000 Amst. lb. in 1909, and 1,455,000 Amst. lb. in 1908. The shipments from January to June of this year were 6,347,000 Amst. lb. against 6,397,000 Amst. lb. in 1910, 5,525,000 Amst. lb. in 1909, and 5,844,000 Amst. lb. in 1908.

CITRIC ACID is in fair demand at 1s. 3½d. for either English or foreign. The English makers are said to be behindhand in their deliveries.

COCOA BUTTER.—At auction at Amsterdam on June 6 87 tons of Van Houten's sold at 101½c. per half-kilo, against 82½c. at the previous sale.

COD-LIVER OIL remains unaltered at from 110s. per barrel c.i.f., there being no business to report.

According to cabled statistics received from Norway, the catch and output of cod-liver oil up to June 3, as compared with the corresponding period of 1910, is as follows:

		Catch of Cod.	Livers for Raw Oil (hect.)	Yield of e.l.o. (hect.)
Finmarken	... 1911...	23,181,000	6,610	17,052
"	... 1910...	20,140,000	7,981	11,253
Whole Country	... 1911...	60,800,000	11,874	40,811
"	... 1910...	52,500,000	16,807	38,900

COPPER SULPHATE is about 5s. per ton easier for prompt delivery, ordinary Liverpool brands offering at 22l. 15s. per ton, and for last half June 21l. 10s. is quoted, a decline of 10s.

CREAM OF TARTAR remains firm at the previously quoted rates of 95s. per cwt. for 98 per cent. and 93s. for 95 per cent.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—An arrival of 22 cases, part reboiled lump and part *reed*, has taken place.

ERGOT.—An arrival of 7 cases has taken place from Hamburg. Market continues very quiet.

GAMBOGE remains steady in spite of the good stock, holders asking 13l. per cwt. for fair Siam pipe, with buyers at 11. less.

GUM ACACIA.—Soudan sorts are firm on the spot at 47s. 6d., and for arrival from 44s. 6d. to 45s. per cwt. c.i.f. is quoted; East Indian gums are quiet, No. 1 Ghatti offering to arrive at 35s. 3d. per cwt. c.i.f.

HONEY.—Business is reported in water-white Californian at 42s. 6d. c.i.f. for July-August shipment, and at 38s. 6d. c.i.f. for light amber.

IPECACUANHA.—There is some inquiry for Matto Grosso, but buyers are not yet prepared to pay 9s., which is the price asked by the only first-hand holder. Cartagena is offered at 7s. 9d., and Minas at 7s. 9d. also. A small parcel of cultivated Minas has arrived.

JALAP.—Market is more or less nominal, the spot value of 10 per cent. being 1s. 6d.; 37 bags have arrived *via* Havre.

The exports from Vera Cruz (the principal port of shipment) during the fiscal year 1909-10 amounted to 178 tons, valued at 11,487l., against 78 tons, valued at 4,296l., in 1908-09, and 69 tons, valued at 2,495l., in 1907-08.

LEMON OIL has been in excellent demand, and in some quarters supplies have been found temporarily inadequate to meet the pressure induced by the hot weather. Prices are firm, genuine offering for shipment at 5s. 3d. per lb. c.i.f.

A Palermo advice of June 3 states that the market remains in the same position, notwithstanding the lack of demand from abroad. The future of the article depends on whether holders of spot goods, who refuse to come forward, or consumers, who have refrained from buying in the primary markets of late,

will get the upper hand eventually. Some important business in new crop for delivery in December-March has already taken place at prices about 20 per cent. below current rates, but which are still some 50 per cent. above the opening prices of last season.

LEMONGRASS OIL is scarce on the spot, East Indian offering at 4½d. and West Indian at 4d. per oz.

LIME-JUICE is dearer, ordinary to fair raw West Indian offering at from 1s. to 1s. 3d. per gal., and good at 1s. 5d. Concentrated West Indian is steady at from 18l. 2s. 6d. to 18l. 7s. 6d., but the amount of business done is quite small in the absence of important arrivals.

LITHIA CARBONATE is in steady current demand at unaltered rates.

MENTHOL remains quiet, with Kobayashi offering at 16s. per lb. on the spot, and at 15s. 9d. c.i.f. to arrive.

MYRRH.—Eleven packages have arrived from Aden. The commoner qualities have been inquired for, but there is little to be had. Seven bales genuine Aden have also arrived.

OPIMUM.—There is an absence of news or prices from the primary markets this week, and business is at a standstill pending new crop developments.

A Smyrna correspondent writes on May 26 reporting a quiet market, the only sale being a case of fine selected extra-rich material at 17s. 3d. Sellers continue to maintain a very firm position. The arrivals to date amount to 4,558 cases, against 1,953 cases at the same period last year.

ORANGE OIL remains a firm market, and at primary sources business has been done at higher rates; for shipment, from 6s. 10d. to 7s. 3d. per lb. c.i.f. is quoted.

PEPPER is dearer, spot sellers of Singapore now asking 4½d. per lb. for fair; for arrival the sales include July-August shipment at 4¾d. c.i.f., and Lampong at 4½d. c.i.f. for January-March shipment. White pepper is also dearer, spot holders now asking 7¼d. per lb. for fair; for July-September 7¾d. to 7½d. c.i.f. has been paid for Singapore, and 7½d. c.i.f. for Muntok.

PEPPERMINT OIL continues extremely quiet, American oil in tins offering at from 11s. 6d. to 12s., and H.G.H. at from 14s. 6d. to 14s. 9d., London terms. Japanese has been sold at 6s. 10d. on the spot for both Kobayashi and Suzuki, being about 2d. easier. About 60 cases have been sold.

PYROGALLIC ACID.—The advance noted last week works out at 7d. per lb. on crystals, the price of resublimed being unchanged. The makers' quotation for crystals in 100-oz. lots in 1-oz. bottles is 6s. 3d., or 500-oz. lots 6s. per lb.

QUICKSILVER.—The leading importers' price is unaltered at 8l. 5s. per bottle, and in second-hands the quotation has fluctuated slightly, closing at 8l. 1s. per bottle.

QUILLAIA remains scarce and firmly held at from 25l. to 26l. per ton ex store Liverpool.

QUINCE-SEED.—Four bags have arrived from the Cape, but they are not for this market.

QUININE.—The landings in London during May amounted to 56,592 oz. and the deliveries to 118,592 oz., leaving a stock on April 30 of 3,663,488 oz., as against 3,531,200 oz. in 1910.

SARSAPARILLA.—There is some inquiry from the Continent for Mexican, but there is practically no stock in London. The arrivals comprise 21 bales grey Jamaica (which will be offered next week), also a few bales of Native Jamaica.

SENNA.—The offerings next week will include 200 bales Tinnevely just arrived, and several shipments of new crop Alexandrian have also taken place. The remainder of the offerings of Tinnevely leaf ex last week's auction have since been cleared.

SHELLAC is dull and easier, fair standard TN orange offering at from 70s. to 71s. on the spot, and for arrival. Sellers of June-August quote 70s., and A. C. Garnet at 66s. c.i.f. Futures are also easier, with sellers of August delivery at 72s., October at 73s. 6d., and December at 75s.

SPERMACETI continues low in value, American refined offering at 1s. per lb.

TARTARIC ACID remains in good demand at from 1s. 1¼d. to 1s. 2d. for English, and 1s. 0¾d. to 1s. 1d. for foreign.

TURPENTINE shows an advance of about 2s. 6d. per cwt. since last week, closing at 46s. 7½d. per cwt. French is worth about 47s.

WAX, VEGETABLE.—Japan is steady, with good squares offering on the spot at 41s. 6d., and for arrival business has been done at from 39s. 6d. to 39s. per cwt. c.i.f. for June-July shipment.

Heavy Chemicals.

The holidays, of course, have interfered with business in the heavy-chemical market considerably since last writing, but the demand has not fallen off more than is natural. The tone of the market continues very steady, and with shipments on the brisk side is likely to remain so. Main products of the alkali branch are in good demand both against contract and on miscellaneous account, while sundries keep a good average.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.—This market is very quiet, and values rule lower, more especially for prompt, since this demand is very slack. Present nominal figures: Beckton, 25-per-cent. ammonia, guaranteed, prompt, 12l. 15s.; London, terms, 12l. 7s. 6d. to 12l. 10s.; Leith, 15l. 5s., and forward, 13l. 10s.; Liverpool, 13l.; and Hull, 13l.

BICHROMATES OF POTASH AND SODA have been moving better at late figures. Bichromate of potash, English and Scotch deliveries, 3½d. per lb., less 5 per cent.; and export, 3¼d. per lb. net f.o.b. Glasgow. Bichromate of soda, English and Scotch deliveries, 3d. per lb., less 5 per cent.; and export, 2¾d. per lb. net f.o.b. Glasgow.

ZINC SALTS are on the steady side with fair consumptive demand. Zinc sulphate crystals, 7l. to 7l. 5s. per ton; zinc chloride, 100° Tw., 6l. to 6l. 5s. per ton.

MAGNESIUM SALTS are in increased request. Sulphate, 62s. 6d. to 65s. per ton; chloride, 67s. 6d. to 70s. per ton; and carbonate, 30s. to 32s. 6d. per cwt.

Continental Drug and Chemical Markets.

CARNAUBA WAX.—The Hamburg market is easier owing to the expectation of the arrival of the steamer *Guthrun* with, it is supposed, the remainder of the Brazilian yield. A few lots of fatty and current grey were sold at easier rates. Sandy grey is now quoted at m.297.50 to m.300 per 100 kilos., and fatty grey at about the same.

ERGOT.—Further small sales of Russian took place, and m.9 per kilo. was paid. Spanish is more freely offered, but not obtainable under m.11. Speculative offers for July-August delivery from Spain are now to hand at m.6, but no buyers yet.

HYDRASTIS.—The scarcity is more perceptible, and offers from America are very few. Present quotations are m.32 per kilo, and though stuff is still obtainable at this price, it is probable that the rise will continue.

NAPHTHALINE.—Makers are busy and almost sold out, and it is difficult to obtain delivery. The railways now refuse to carry naphthaline in the usual sacks, but only in cases and casks. No change has as yet taken place in dealers' prices.

STORAX (LIQUID).—About the middle of May a scarcity was perceptible, owing to which an advance was anticipated. The actual rise has, however, been postponed owing to some recently received supplies, and the article is still quoted at about m.110 per 100 kilos.

TARTARIC ACID.—Offers are still on the market from second-hands, covering, however, small quantities, and owing to the increased demand in view of the hot weather these will shortly be sold out. Makers have been quoting m.245 per 100 kilos. for lead-free.

Norwegian Cod-liver Oil.

Supplementing our remarks on Norwegian cod-liver oil in last week's issue (index folio 821), it may be pointed out that many producers last year (1910 season) were unable to obtain a remunerative price for their steam-refined oil (see *C. & D.*, March 4), and instead of cutting their losses they resolved to store their oil, in the hope of obtaining better prices in 1911. Their reasoning was based on the assumption that the livers had become constantly leaner since 1903, and would probably continue to do so during 1911 and 1912. This proved to be the case so far as Lofoten was concerned, and an advance in the price of cod-liver oil was quite justified, so that up to the end of January the market position was sound. In February, however, after a very stormy period at Lofoten, during which the fishing was very poor, speculation got the upper hand, and without taking into consideration that the Finmarken fishing would make up, partially perhaps, for the poor results in Lofoten, speculators drove up the prices considerably, and went on doing so to the end of March, when there was some very good fishing at Lofoten and Søndmøre, which made people more prudent. Subsequently the Finmarken fishing opened, showing a larger cod than in previous years, and prices gradually declined. As will have been seen from the weekly reports, this fishing has been very good—even rich—and the market

fell rapidly. There is now a good stock of oil at reasonable prices, and even should the demand improve the possibility of prices advancing is doubtful. The prices now being paid for fresh livers in the Finmarken fishing-places do not permit producers to sell their oil at the ruling price of 108s. 6d. per barrel c.i.f. without a loss.

Linseed Oil.

During the last few months the market has shown far more resistance than was expected, considering the liberal Indian shipments and the bearish influences as regards future crop possibilities. It would appear that current supplies have come to bare boards and are being drawn upon to a considerable extent to meet Transatlantic requirements. But now the outlook has undergone a decided change; the tendency in recent weeks, indeed, has been, despite transient small rallies, distinctly towards a lower level of values. The position of crushers is now difficult, as the cost of raw material is still very high in the face of the shrinking outlet for the by-product at falling prices, and the adjustment of prices to a more workable basis for crushers is likely to be a long process, as American requirements have to be reckoned with on a large scale for some time. The total American imports of seed for 1910 were 228,968 tons, against 36,991 tons in 1909 and practically nil in 1908, when America had an exportable surplus. During the first quarter of this year her imports were about 60,000 tons, against 21,000 tons in 1910, making 142,616 tons for October 1910 to March 1911 inclusive, during which period America also imported 2,130,449 gals. of linseed oil, compared with 467,663 gals. in the first half of last year. These figures naturally go a long way to explain the fabulous prices that have ruled since last summer, with linseed oil in London reaching as high as 51l. 10s. per ton, the current price for spot now being about 42l. 10s., while contracts can be placed for September-December delivery at about 7l. per ton discount. America is still taking seed direct from India, but after another couple of weeks shipments thereto are expected to cease, as little or no seed was contracted for after the end of last month. America will then probably be in a position to satisfy her requirements until her own new crop becomes available, but may come on again as a buyer should adverse weather conditions occur there. The shipments from the River Plate this year again show a considerable deficit, which is only partly offset by the increased tonnage received from India, whose export surplus this season is expected to be at least 125,000 tons in excess of the previous season, whereas the deficit in the Argentine exports this year may run into as much as 250,000 tons. At the same time there is a fair increase of supplies from Russia. The demand both for forward seed and for oil has of late been materially checked by the sharp break in the Duluth market owing to favourable climatic conditions. Another depressing factor has been the offers of American new crop on the Continent at steadily declining prices for October-December shipment, while the demand for oil is poor, consumers now using cheap substitutes in increasing quantities, which is likely to continue until prices have dropped to a much lower level. American crop prospects are so far favourable, and the yield in India is turning out fully equal to expectations.

American Peppermint Oil.

Mr. F. M. Rudd, of Bronson, Michigan, writes the following letter to his agents, Messrs. R. W. Greeff & Co., respecting the outlook in peppermint oil: "It is not anticipated from the condition of the growing crop that there will be anything but a moderate-sized quantity produced. Quite high prices are looked for later in the season. The large buyers are making strenuous efforts to secure all the new crop possible under contract, and the opinion is held that nearly two-thirds of the crop has already been bought. The remainder cannot be bought at present at prices which buyers are willing to offer, and will probably be held off the market. It is not improbable that the new crop will start in at quite a high range of values. Buyers on your side may not care to heed these conditions at the present time, and perhaps believe that they will be able to secure supplies at low prices as usual. It does not look that way, however, from this side."

Cablegrams.

BERGEN, June 7.—The cod fishing at most places in the Finmarken district is now closing, and the market is dull at 107s. 6d. per barrel c.i.f. terms.

NEW YORK, June 8.—Business in drugs is of a fair extent, Opium is quiet and unaltered at \$5.70 per lb. for druggists'; the alkaloids (morphine and codeine) are higher. Peppermint oil is nominal at \$2.70. Hydrastis (golden seal) has advanced a further 5c. to \$3.30 per lb. Cascara sagrada is dull at 8c. per lb. Senega is firmer at 42c.; Mexican sarsaparilla steady at 19c., and jalap easy at 31c. per lb.

AMSTERDAM, June 8.—At the auction of cinchona held here to-day 7,307 packages were offered, of which 5,864 packages sold at an average unit of 3.16 cents per half-kilo, against 3.13c. paid at the auction on May 4. The following were the approximate quantities of quinine purchased by the factories: (1) The English and American factories, 7,388 kilos.; (2) the Brunswick factory, 6,169 kilos.; (3) the Mannheim factory, 5,589 kilos.; (4) the Amsterdam factory, 2,065 kilos.; (5) the Frankfort and Stuttgart factories, 3,086 kilos.; (6) the Maarsse factory, 2,881 kilos.; (7) various buyers, 5,484 kilos. The prices paid for manufacturing bark ranged from 10½c. to 32½c., and for druggists' bark from 9c. to 38½c. per half-kilo. About half the coca-leaves sold at from 28c. to 88½c. per half-kilo.

London Drug Statistics.

THE following statistics are compiled from information supplied by public warehouses. They relate to the receipts and deliveries of some of the leading drugs from and into the London public warehouses for the month of May, and to the stocks on May 31. As the figures are collated several days before the close of the month, they are only approximately in some instances.

	May		Stocks		1911	
	Landed	Delivd.	1911	1910	Imprtd.	Delivd.
Aloes.....cs. etc.	297	125	1,446	967	1,027	864
".....gourds	—	—	1,092	1,574	1,181	1,594
Anise, star.....cs.	—	—	1	—	—	29
Arrowroot.....pkgs.	317	1,265	†3,835	†1,190	4,012	4,428
Balsams.....cks.	20	2	291	308	44	181
Calumba.....pkgs.	506	126	547	53	807	414
Camphor.....pkgs.	1,530	1,011	1,493	1,420	4,704	4,395
Cardamoms ..	671	487	1,443	1,924	2,372	1,698
Cascara sagrada tons	—	10	266	429	52	55
Cinchona.....pkgs.	482	602	†1,315	5,001	2,316	2,405
Cocculus indicus ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cochineal.....bgs.	—	44	161	539	62	209
Cubeb.....	143	145	41	64	235	507
Dragon's-blood pkgs.	35	44	182	114	60	114
Galls.....	625	285	2,331	2,069	2,501	1,249
Gums—						
Ammoniacum ..	15	—	19	4	15	—
Animi.....	223	66	435	442	472	416
Arabic.....	266	1,344	4,473	2,215	2,749	6,622
Asafetida.....	248	197	1,209	249	1,221	743
Benzoin.....	112	190	481	1,258	798	817
Copal.....	4,443	3,782	27,078	22,469	25,161	18,970
Damar.....	848	1,434	5,032	4,823	4,159	4,684
Galbanum.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gamboge.....	64	21	184	97	171	156
Guaiaacum.....	—	6	23	46	7	13
Kauri.....tons net	35	31	289	321	177	208
Kino.....pkgs.	—	2	38	35	—	3
Mastich.....	—	5	18	35	20	29
Myrrh, E.I.....	15	49	359	339	228	144
Olibanum.....	40	25	584	181	572	277
Sandarac.....	105	241	1,131	513	1,041	728
Tragacanth.....	2,112	1,633	4,508	5,227	8,406	7,160
Indiarubber.....tons	986	1,105	1,638	1,239	4,876	4,677
Ipecacuanha—						
Cartagen.....pkgs.	4	6	41	243	27	87
E.I.....	52	6	76	7	120	105
Matto Grosso ..	10	13	36	26	33	45
Minas.....	—	11	6	31	28	44
Jalap.....bls.	—	49	170	9	435	306
Nux vomica.....pkgs.	518	120	594	1,160	657	649
Oils—						
*Anise, star.....cs.	5	19	10	13	49	94
*Cassia.....	—	1	34	34	60	42
Castor.....pkgs.	158	80	181	96	408	376
Cocoon.....tons	89	100	370	161	560	593
Olive.....pkgs.	282	287	1,824	1,831	1,573	1,190
Palm.....tons	29	13	16	3	29	13
Quinine.....lb.	3,537	7,412	228,968	220,700	37,286	38,709
Rhubarb.....cs.	14	67	438	428	187	246
Sarsaparilla.....bls.	109	94	379	519	370	433
Senna.....pkgs.	381	386	2,107	1,087	1,452	2,307
Shellac.....cs.	5,199	3,552	98,665	78,247	20,394	18,666
Turmeric.....tons	99	40	163	353	155	165
Wax—						
Bees'.....pkgs.	573	421	1,544	1,411	2,098	2,536
Vegetable.....cs.	32	83	672	875	805	572

* Stocks of essential oils at Smith's Wharf and Brewer's Quay are not included.

† Corrected.

SIMARUBA BARK.—The exports of simaruba bark from Ciudad Bolivar, Venezuela, during 1910 amounted to 1,219 kilos., against 3,619 kilos. in 1909.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. J. P. E. KEEBLE, chemist, has sold his business in Market Place, Crewkerne, Somerset, to Mr. W. F. Turner, pharmacist.

MESSRS. B. & S. BROOKE have taken over the business lately carried on by Messrs. G. Coverdale, Ltd., at 57 Blossom Street, York.

MR. RALPH C. FRANK, chemist and druggist, has taken over the business carried on by Mr. G. A. Cooper at 1 Roxeth Parade, South Harrow.

MESSRS. ZIMMER & Co., manufacturers of chemical safety-appliances, have removed from 32 Mark Lane to 35 Finsbury Square, London, E.C.

MR. SIDNEY J. STEARN, chemist-optician, Cambridge, has purchased the business carried on for some years by Mr. Clement Ellis in High Street, Walton, Suffolk.

MR. GEORGE F. STARMER, chemist and druggist, has acquired the business of Mr. Clifford B. Moore, chemist, at the Woodside Pharmacy, High Road, North Finchley, London, N.

MESSRS. BRAGER & Co., LTD., druggists' sundries merchants, have removed from 356 City Road, London, E.C., to new and larger premises at 207 Pentonville Road, King's Cross, London, N.

PERSONALITIES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. DAVID HOWARD, J.P., F.I.C., has been re-elected President of the West Ham Chamber of Commerce.

MR. E. A. BAILEY, chemist and druggist, has been elected to the Committee of the Boston Tradesmen's Association.

SIR VICTOR HORSLEY, F.R.S., F.R.C.S., will most probably be Liberal candidate for North Islington at the next election.

MR. P. G. CURTIS, chemist and druggist, the Victoria Pharmacy, Brightlingsea, has been elected a member of the committee of the local Tradesmen's Association.

SIR JOHN T. BRUNNER, Bart., is to be entertained to dinner on June 16 by the Lancashire, Cheshire, and N.W. Liberal Federation at the Reform Club, Manchester. Lord Shuntleworth is to preside.

MR. WILLIAM JONES, dispenser, Highbury, has resigned after thirty-five years in the Poor Law service, under the Islington Guardians. Mr. Jones is sixty years old, and will receive a retiring allowance of 113*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.* per annum.

DR. WILLY MERCK celebrated on June 1 the 25th anniversary of his entry into the firm of E. Merck, Darmstadt. The day was made a general holiday, and in addition to the employes and workers, representatives of the Hessian Government, of the town of Darmstadt, and of numerous chemical-works assembled on the morning in one of the buildings of the factory to congratulate Dr. Merck. The presentation made by the employes of the firm took the form a magnificent art glass vase. The workers of the factory presented their chief with a very finely illuminated address. The Grand Duke of Hesse conferred upon him the Grand Gold Medal for Art and Science, thereby showing his appreciation of the services rendered by the recipient in furthering chemical-research work and developing an important branch of the country's industry, in addition to being a distinguished patron of art. The day closed with a "Kommers," in which Dr. Willy Merck with other members of the family and several guests joined the employes in celebrating the event in true German style.

THE Board of Trade Returns for May show a decline in imports of 1,299,929*l.*, and the exports an increase of 4,007,517*l.* The chemical export section expanded by 219,659*l.*, these figures reflecting the activity which has continued in this industry throughout the first six months of the year.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they cannot be dealt with.

Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects connected with the business are replied to in these columns if they are considered to be of general interest.

Letters submitted for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in "The Chemist and Druggist" does not imply Editorial agreement with the opinions expressed.

The National Insurance Bill.

SIR,—When Mr. Lloyd George introduced the present Bill he certainly spoke as if his sympathies lay with the doctors and chemists. He realised their position to a certain extent. So far as we chemists are concerned there is, however, at present nothing very cheerful on the horizon. Our Pharmacy Act is framed in such a way that if the dispensing and supply of necessaries is undertaken by the doctors or health committees, there is nothing to accrue of any benefit to the qualified chemist; he apparently has no *locus standi* whatever. My hope lies in the policy foreshadowed in the *C. & D.*, and if the Society will come forward with a scheme which comprises a general price-list on the lines of those already in existence on the Continent, then I think such could be pressed to the fullest extent, and, being reasonable, would have some chance of acceptance. I am afraid we cannot expect much help from the opposition. There appears to be a disposition to swallow the Bill *holus bolus*, and where we are likely to come in is hard to say. All the sympathies of legislators flow out more to the unqualified than to those who have done their best in conformity with the laws and regulations, and we have to anticipate the "old general and his ex-army compounders" referred to by Mr. Walker. They are on the spot and voluble. Pending the completion of the Council's efforts, our work should be in the way of pressure on the opposition with the object of delaying the measure. I see no necessity for hurrying a Bill like this through the House of Commons. A few months' postponement can do no harm.

Yours truly,

N. A. B. (64/15.)

June 6.

SIR,—It is reported that the Nottingham Order of Odd-fellows, at a meeting held at Coventry, passed resolutions declaring that the control of doctors and the provision of medicine for approved societies must remain with the societies, and that medical pay should not exceed the amount calculated by the Government actuaries in their report, approving the separation of provision of chemists from doctors, and objecting to the limit of incomes for medical benefits. This shows that the friendly societies will try their best to secure for themselves the right to control the supply of medicines as well as to control the doctors. I should like to inquire if we chemists have any right to compensation, and what steps can be taken to secure it? The Bill means great loss of profitable business to the ordinary retail chemist—viz., by the loss of the sale of a great many proprietary medicines, *e.g.*, tonics, neuralgia mixtures, cough mixtures, etc., which the insured person will obtain from the doctor instead of the chemist. Instead of obtaining one shilling, as now, these prescriptions will have to be made up for a few coppers by the chemist who secures the contract, to the injury of the other chemists in the same town. The old classic firms will still retain most of their dispensing at their own charges. It behoves us each one to arise and do our part in order that our claims may receive from the House the consideration and satisfaction we require. I myself have had a favourable reply from Mr. W. Joynson-Hicks, M.P., and the Right Hon. D. Lloyd George says "he is giving careful consideration to the claims of the chemists as put before him by the deputation introduced to him by Mr. Glyn-Jones." This is very good so far as

it goes, but I don't think the point of the compensation has been brought forward. The right to keep "open shop to retail, dispense, or compound poisons" secured to registered chemists is seriously interfered with, and we need to so work, that it may be demonstrated to the "man in the street" that public safety is not secure if the friendly societies gain their point—their dispensaries would not be under poison regulations. Could not a monster petition be organised? or a mass meeting of chemists arranged to meet at the House on a given day? Does the Royal Charter of the Pharmaceutical Society give the right to petition the King direct?

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

Brentford, June 7. A. HAWTHORNE.

Mr. George Crocker, writing in reply to Mr. Burrows, states that his basis for remunerating the chemist and dispenser is 9d. per hour for compounding, or 2l. 10s. a week, plus 1l. 10s. for rent, rates, and taxes, and 2l. a week profit.

Subscribers' Symposium.

For questions, answers, incidents, and interchange of opinions among "C. & D." readers.

Appreciation.

"A fortnight ago I received my first copy since renewing my subscription, and it is quite refreshing to see it after a few months being without."—W. V. A. (Transvaal). (16/59.)

Oil of Tar for Horses.
(C. & D., April 15.)

In the old country this is called spirits of tar. At any rate, it is a thin liquid tar, and is sold in Canada for horses' cough; dose, 5j. on the back of the tongue, and it does the work.—*Lennox Tice* (Edmonton, Alberta).

Camphor for Corns.

I overheard the conversation reported below in a Hoxton pharmacy last Saturday, and as the instructions for use are both clear and original thought it might interest some of your readers:

Small Boy: A penorth of camfur fur corns, please.

Pharmacist (a little doubtfully): How are you going to use it, Tommy?

Small Boy (very decidedly): Spit on it and rub it on.

It would be interesting to know whether the treatment was successful.—*J. E. Everett.*

Dispensing Notes.

This section is for the discussion and solution of dispensing problems and prescriptions received by "C. & D." readers. We are always pleased to receive the opinions of readers for publication. "The Art of Dispensing" ("C. & D." Office, 6s.) is the standard book of reference on this subject.

"What is Calcii Carbonas"?

SIR,—A few notes on the official history of chalk in this country, gathered from such works as I happen to have at hand, may perhaps be interesting in connection with this query. Chalk does not appear in any of our earlier Pharmacopœias, but in 1733 Alleyne writes that although rarely met with in prescriptions, it is in esteem with some physicians as an absorbent and astringent. He knows it only in the crude state. Brookes (1773) has both chalk itself (*creta alba*) and prepared chalk (*creta alba præparata*), the latter from the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia, but it was in the third edition of that work (1735). Heale (1791) has prepared chalk in lozenges and mixture, both of which are from the P.L. of 1788. In Clarke's "Conspetus" (1811) chalk appears as *carbonas calcis*, E.; as *carbonas calcis præparatus*, E.; as *creta præcipitata*, D.; and as *creta præparata*, L.D. In Rennie (1837) it occurs as *creta*, L.D.; *carbonas calcis*, E.; as *creta præcipitata*, *calcis carbonas præcipitatum* (*sic*), D.; and as *creta præparata*, L.E.D. Clarke says of *creta præcipitata* that it "affords carbonate of lime in its purest state," but he gives no formula for its production: Rennie also emphasises its purity, and directs it to be prepared as at present from chloride of lime (calcium) by precipitation with carbonate of soda. It is true that the only *calcii carbonas* in the B.P. of 1898 is *calcii carb. præcipitatus*, but *creta præparata* is described as native calcium carbonate freed from most of its impurities, and as chalk itself is the only form of this drug to which the name *calcis carbonas*

(without an adjective) has ever been officially given, I personally should now understand by that term the prepared chalk, which is simply the same thing in a purer state. The "præcipitatus" notes a change of character, and it is not for nothing that precipitated chalk enters into one official preparation only, prepared chalk into many.

Yours truly,

C. C. BELL.

Legal Queries.

Consult the Legal Advice Section of "The Chemists' and Druggists Diary," 1911, p. 435, before writing about your difficulty.

Anxious (56/54).—Questions such as yours regarding poisons are anticipated by the information in our *Diary*, to which please refer.

L. W. M. (43/40).—The only new poison regulations are in respect to mineral acids and soluble oxalates. After October 1 these, which are liquid, must be sold in bottles distinguishable to touch.

Mihi (60/21).—The ivy-leaf corn-silk is apparently a known, admitted, and approved remedy, the formula being disclosed on the envelope. As you are a registered chemist it is exempt from duty.

Ajax (59/71).—The tenancy agreement which you send provides for quitting three months after notice is given, on any rent day, and would be valid; but the agreement is not well drafted, and you should consult a local solicitor before signing it. The stamp duty for a tenancy agreement in which no definite term of occupancy is specified is 1s. per 5l. of rent.

Omega (55/5).—(1) A bootmaker may sell non-poisonous foot-powder in his shop. If it is liable to medicine-stamp duty he would need to take out a licence for the sale of stamped medicines. (2) The following label does not make the preparation dutiable:

THE ANTISEPTIC FOOT-POWDER.

This powder is invaluable to tourists, pedestrians, and to all who suffer from perspiring or tender feet.

Directions.—Having washed the feet in warm water, sprinkle a little of the powder into the socks every morning, if required.

Pensioner (63/41) puts the following queries:

Re formula for Nursery Hair-lotion, "F. H. G." (49/5), in C. & D. inquiry column, June 3, could you inform me if the Board of Inland Revenue would allow the use of industrial spirit in place of the S.V.R. in the formula? If not, would the addition of ext. quassia help to pass it? Also if we got permission to make bay rum with industrial spirit as formula given to "Gregory" (235/8), C. & D., April 29, could we use the bay rum to make up other preparations, for instance, hair-dressing, like the *Lavona de Compose*, or would we be only allowed to sell it in its original state as bay rum, and if we sold it as bay rum should we be liable under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts?

[Requests for permission to use industrial methylated spirit should be made to the Board of Customs and Excise, Thames Street, London, E.C., either direct or through the local supervisor. In the above case the formula as given on June 3 should be submitted, and as an alternative a formula containing quassia extract in the proportion specified on April 29. The use of bay rum in the manner indicated without the express authority of the Board would be illegal. We should be glad if "Pensioner" would put this matter also to the Board, and let us know the answer.]

E. H. R. (53/30).—(1) You are right in your view that a person can by taking out Revenue licences (wholesale and retail) sell wine and spirits without requiring a magistrate's certificate, providing nothing other than intoxicating liquors and minerals are sold on the same premises; but this is only so where the premises have no internal communication with the premises of any person who is carrying on any other trade or business. Consequently druggists as such do not come under the rule. Where the wholesale and retail licences are taken out, a rebate of one-half the duty payable on the wholesale dealer's licence is allowed; but the whole amount payable for the wholesale and the retail licences together is not to be less than the duty on a wholesale dealer's licence alone. Thus, a wholesale and retail spirits licence cannot be had for less than 15l. 15s., nor a wholesale and retail wine for less than ten guineas. The rebate is allowed whether the magistrate's certificate is held or not. (2) Canvassing for orders for an article for the sale of which an Excise licence is required can only be carried on by a *bona-fide* traveller in the employment of a person who holds the necessary licences

to sell the article. Such a traveller must be a person whose substantial occupation it is to travel from town to town to solicit and take orders. The orders, when taken, are to be forwarded to the licensed premises to be accepted or refused, and, if accepted, the goods must be appropriated to the order at the shop and despatched from there to the customer. The licensed manufacturer of an article requiring a licence for its sale, such as a distiller, brewer, or British-wine maker, may, however, canvass for orders himself or may get his servant or agent to canvass, provided the liquor sold is supplied to the purchaser direct from the premises where it is manufactured.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We do not as a rule repeat information given in this section during the past twelve months. When references are given to past issues, these should be consulted. Back numbers for the past five years can generally be obtained from our office at the published prices. We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles.

J. A. B. (40/73).—(1) MINERAL-WATER SALTS.—Some time ago we examined some "hardening" salts for giving to aerated water an improved vivacity and appearance, and found that potassium nitrate was present in the proportion of about 90 per cent. (2) TREATMENT OF ADENOIDS.—The medical treatment, as distinguished from the surgical operation, consists in the administration of tincture of iodine in increasing doses, beginning with 6 minims twice daily for children of five to nine years, and increasing the dose rapidly to 60 minims per diem. Lapeyre, whose treatment this is also, uses a local application of menthol in olive oil. Parkinson ("Clinical Journal," 1902) employed as a local application equal parts of liquor ferri and glycerin, twice a week at first, and then once a week. (3) We cannot find that melon-juice is an article of commerce.

Antiquity (54/61).—OLD PHARMACY POTS.—The labels read as follows: S. e Spin. Cerv. = Syrupus e spinâ cervinâ (syrup of buckthorn), official under this name in the P.L., 1746. Syr. Balsam = Syrupus Balsamicus (syrup of tolu), official under this name in the P.L., 1721 and 1746.

Acid (52/57).—ETCHING GLASS.—The powder mixed with hydrofluoric acid for using as an etching liquid for glass is usually a mixture of equal parts of ammonium fluoride and barium sulphate. In place of ammonium fluoride the sodium or potassium salt is employed, while potassium sulphate sometimes replaces the barium sulphate.

J. B. (56/67).—The fir-tree oil employed as an insecticide in horticulture is a crude oil distilled from *Pinus sylvestris*.

A. B. C. (50/70).—AQUA MENTHOL.—You give us no indication as to the cause of your having failed to make this preparation, but it occurs to us that you may have expected to dissolve the whole of the menthol in the water, which is not what is intended. The formula of the Bournemouth Pharmaceutical Association, the one usually adopted, is as follows:

Menthol	...	...	...	8 grains
Alcohol (90 per cent.)	...	...	...	2 drachms
Distilled water	...	...	...	20 oz.

Dissolve the menthol in the alcohol, add the solution to the water, shake well, and filter after twenty-four hours.

Curious (50/1).—GUN-BROWNING LIQUID.—Nitric acid reacts violently with alcohol, giving off copious red fumes containing nitrous ether, nitric oxide, carbon dioxide, aldehyde, etc. If mixed in the open air in an earthenware dish and allowed to cool the mixture could be sent out in a corked bottle.

Erica. (49/58).—GILT PICTURE-FRAMES are best cleaned by lightly sponging with water containing a small proportion of spirit. The spirit acts as a solvent of fly-marks.

G. D. A. (56/40).—LAUNDRY BLUE POWDER.—This is made as follows:

Ultramarine	...	...	...	1 part
Sodium bicarbonate	...	...	...	2 parts

Mix well and pass through a sieve.

The quality of the ultramarine regulates the retail price of the powder, but another powder commonly sold in some parts of the country is a mixture of Prussian blue 2 parts and oxalic acid 1 part.

Anti-fat (53/54).—(1) REDUCING OBESITY.—Extractum fuci vesiculosi liquidum is the most satisfactory and the most employed for reducing obesity. Liquids and carbohydrates should be reduced to the minimum, bread being always

toasted. Fat meat and butter should be stopped. It is considered that the physiological effect of ext. fuci vesiculosi is due to the iodine it contains, and on that account potassium iodide is given in mixtures in doses of about 10 grains. (2) HAIR-DYE.—From your description we should think that the process in which henna is employed would be useful for restoring the light-brown hair.

Denstonian (36/13).—Will you indicate what formulæ you have used for miscible disinfectant which yielded products incompatible with sea-water?

Thirst (56/49).—GINGER-WINE ESSENCE.—The following is one of several recipes given for this in "Pharmaceutical Formulas":

Gingerin	...	...	...	...	2vij.
Capsicin	...	...	...	...	5iss.
Glycerin	...	...	...	...	3viii.
Syrup	...	...	...	...	3viij.
Caramel	...	...	...	...	3iv.
Tartaric acid	...	...	...	...	3vj.
Water to	...	...	...	...	3lxxij.

Mix.

Dissolve 3 lb. of loaf-sugar in 3 pints of water by boiling, and make up to 1 gal. with water. To this add 4 oz. of the essence.

Rhei (40/6).—(1) DANDRUFF.—The hair turning grey is probably due to the interference with the nutrition of the hair produced by the chronic dandruff. As the dandruff appears to be of the dry variety, oily applications are the best. The soap-spirit treatment previously recommended should be persevered with, and three times a week a mixture of one drachm sulphur in one ounce almond oil should be daubed into the hair roots with a shaving brush. (2) THE PAIN IN THE CALVES OF THE LEG is probably not rheumatism, but a pain or heaviness caused by interference with the venous circulation. If there are any apparent varicose veins an elastic web bandage should be tried. If not, massage with any simple liniment should be employed, combined with walking or cycling exercise. If there is obvious swelling of the legs, kidney or heart disease should be suspected, and the case investigated by a medical man.

S. E. A. (41/46).—(1) FREQUENT MENSTRUATION.—Menstrual periods occurring every fortnight in a young woman may be due to a number of causes, some simple, such as constipation, too much excitement, or too much standing, or they may be due to organic disease of the uterus, or even of the heart, kidneys, or lungs. A mixture containing half-drachm doses of magnesium sulphate with 15-minim doses of liq. ergotæ may be tried, and if ineffective the patient should be examined by a gynaecologist. (2) PAIN IN THE BACK.—The "crick" in the back due to lifting, with consequent fainting and quick recovery, was most probably caused by the rupture of some fibres of the large muscle of the back, the fainting being due to the pain acting reflexly on the heart. The same sequence of events would follow any grave abdominal catastrophe, but in that case the patient would remain seriously ill, and probably die, unless relieved by operation.

Egypt (62/40).—Situations for English chemists' assistants in Egypt and Italy are sometimes advertised when vacancies occur. They are few and far between. We cannot give a list of those to whom you might apply.

Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago.

Reprinted from "The Chemist and Druggist," June 15, 1861.

Tough Lunar Caustic Points.

We have had forwarded to us specimens of a very useful improvement on the ordinary fused lunar caustic. The specimens are cast in small conical points, of the size represented in the annexed woodcut, each being enclosed in a separate glass tube. The great peculiarity distinguishing these points is that they contain a small addition of adhesive material, to the extent of 2 per cent.; this renders them perfectly tough, and they can be cut and pointed as readily as a piece of slate pencil. The material added does not interfere with the solubility of the nitrate of silver, nor with its action as a caustic, but renders it much more convenient and less wasteful in use. We do not doubt but that this improvement, though apparently in a trivial matter, will be found of great convenience to the medical profession. The points may be obtained through the usual wholesale channels.



MINOR EXPERIENCES.

Clito (45/23) says that on presenting himself at Galen Place, London, W.C., for "practical" work he was sent first to

CHEMISTRY

The following paper was given:

Compare the sample of borax in Box No. 13 with the B.P. borax, which says: Each gramme dissolved in 200 c.c. of water should require for neutralisation 5.2 c.c. of volumetric solution of sulphuric acid, using methyl orange as indicator. It should yield no characteristic reactions with the tests for lead, copper, arsenium, iron, calcium, magnesium, carbonates, nitrates, or phosphates, and not more than the slightest characteristic reactions with the tests for chlorides or sulphates. Identify substance in Box No. 14.

Starting with the volumetric work, a normal solution of sulphuric acid was made from the dilute acid on the bench, and with this a solution of the borax was then titrated. The result was a little below the number of c.c. stated in the B.P. Magnesium, calcium, sulphates, and carbonates were present as impurities. The salt proved to be oxide of antimony.

The DISPENSING PAPER was as follows:

Make a belladonna plaster for the breast, having a diameter of 6 in.

Strychnine	...	...	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{30}$
Hyd. ioid. rub.	gr. $\frac{1}{30}$

Ft. pil. Mitte 24. Varnish.

One to be taken three times a day.

Ext. hyoscy.	gr. iij.
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Ext. nucis vom.	gr. $\frac{1}{2}$
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Ext. belladon.	gr. $\frac{1}{2}$
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Ft. suppos. Mitte vj.

Lin. calcis.	3ij.
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To be used as directed.

Send 250 c.c. liq. plumbi subacetatis fort. in a tared flask.

The paper contained nothing difficult, and it was completed well within the time allowed.

Four days later the oral part of the examination began with

PHARMACY.—Here aq. laurocerasi, sp. ammon. arom., ext. glycyrrh. liq., pulv. ipecac. co., adeps lanæ were given for recognition, with questions on the methods of preparation. Also how are the following made?—Ext. nucis vom. liq., ext. bellad., ext. ergotæ, ext. ergotæ liq., tr. belladon., tr. nucis vom., inf. digitalis, tr. digitalis, and tr. strophanthi. Then followed strength of belladonna and nuxvomica preparations, questions on percolators, syphons, desiccators, reflux condenser, and fractional-distillation apparatus. Questions on the preparation of syrupus simplex, syr. senna, syr. pruni virg., and strengths of suppositories of the B.P. and lozenges finished this subject.

BOTANY.—A flower was to be placed in its natural order. Then, how many stamens do the flowers of *N.O. Composite* possess, and how many compartments are there in the ovary? Also similar questions regarding the *N.O.s Leguminosæ*, *Rosacæ*, and *Umbelliferae*, with a fruit (eremoearp). Next a branch of horse-chestnut. What are the markings at the nodes, and what are lenticels? Next, explain the process of assimilation by plants. The three slides given were: T.S. of ovary of the lily (state placentation), T.S. of stem of monocotyledon (did it show any peculiarity? Yes, it possessed a cambium), and a section of a stem with medullary rays.

MATERIA MEDICA.—First about thirty specimens to recognise, including podophyllum rhizome, squills (what part of the plant is used? what is a bulb? when is the drug collected?), marshmallow, quassia (what part of the plant is this?), cassia fruits, cubebs, pepper, digitalis (what are the active principles?), belladonna-root, horseradish, hamamelis-leaves (what part of the plant is official?), bay-leaves, guarana, *Krameria Triandra*, cherry-laurel leaves (what preparation are these used in, and strength of aq. laurocerasi?), pareira-root (also a sample of false pareira), nuxvomica and St. Ignatius beans, benzoin (three varieties). How is benzoic acid obtained from benzoin? and how is the artificial acid prepared? How would you distinguish between the natural and the artificial products?

PRESCRIPTION-READING.—After a simple calculation a prescription was given to translate into full Latin. Next to put into English eight or nine badly written scripts, and lastly about a dozen doses, including those of phenacetin, liq. hydrogenui perox., liq. atropin. sulph., ext. nuc. vom. liq., tr. opii, ext. belladonna.

CHEMISTRY.—The first question was: How does antimony differ from the other metals in forming its salts?—It forms oxy-salts. Is there any other metal similar to this?—Bismuth. Give the formula for tartar emetic. Is there a salt of bismuth corresponding to this?—Not known. Then came: What is the least soluble salt of magnesium? After some

hesitation, during which the Examiner asked the test for magnesium, phosphate was the answer given. What is acetamide, and give its formula? Then the preparation of chloral hydrate. What is the action of chlorine on iodine, and what happens if water is present?

"Clito" says, to his surprise, he was then told to sit down, and after a dreary wait the President congratulated him on having done so well on both days. He says that he found the Examiners easier to deal with than on a former occasion, having been fortunate to have them in a happy mood.

ASSOCIATION AFFAIRS.

Brief Records.

Great Yarmouth Pharmaceutical Association.—A meeting was held on June 1, when there were present Messrs. T. J. Woodcock, Harvey Palmer, J. S. Shearman, T. B. Male, W. G. Poll, H. E. Goddard, and A. E. Richmond. An excursion to Potter Heigham was fixed for June 15 in place of the trip previously arranged.

Western Pharmacists' Association.—At a committee meeting held at Frascati's, Oxford Street, London, W., on May 31, the following officers were elected: *President*, W. Browne; *Vice-President*, C. T. Allen; *Hon. Treasurer*, H. R. Procter; *Hon. Secretaries*, R. E. Lownsbrough, A. Latreille; *Committee*, J. T. Barrett, F. W. Gamble, W. F. Gulliver, J. D. Marshall, A. R. Melhuish, R. L. Whigham, Edmund White, and the officers mentioned above.

Wolverhampton Chemists' Association.—A meeting was held on May 30, Mr. Fellows presiding; there were also present Messrs. Phillips, Forster, Stanway, Gibson, Sadler, Bowdler, Willcock, and Coleman. It was decided that the committee should meet soon after the holiday. A communication from the British Pharmaceutical Conference regarding *Secret and Proprietary Medicines* was considered. The annual outing was arranged for July 20, the place selected being Brewood.

A Special Meeting of Pharmacists

and others interested was held, under the auspices of the Edinburgh District Chemists' Trade Association, at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Thursday, June 8, to consider the National Insurance Bill as it affects pharmacy in Scotland. Mr. T. Stephenson, F.R.S.E., Chairman of the Association, presided.

Mr. J. R. Hill was invited to make a statement. He said they recognised that this Bill was a great scheme for social betterment. There was no class in the community who knew better than pharmacists how much of the destitution, of the physical degeneration, of the moral degradation of the people resulted from failure in securing proper medical attendance and proper medicines in cases of sickness and invalidity. As loyal citizens they desired to co-operate with the Government and Parliament in framing legislation which would accomplish that betterment. They were not there to stop the Bill, but to seek for such amendments as would fairly safeguard the legitimate interests of pharmacists in practice under the existing conditions. He pointed out that the Bill very specially affected pharmacists in Scotland, for the reason that the proportion of persons coming within the scope of the Bill was larger in Scotland than in England, and therefore would affect them to a greater extent, because in England dispensing was largely in the hands of doctors, and the effect there would be to transfer the dispensing to the qualified pharmacist. Any suggestion to extend the method of supplying medicines to all who came within the scope of the Bill on the lines at present prevailing for the supply of medicines by friendly societies would be disastrous to pharmacy and ruin to a very large number of pharmacists. They sought amendments to prevent a result like that. He referred to the promises made by Mr. Lloyd George to the recent deputation, but they wished to get into the Bill before it became an Act some specific wording which would cover the conditions which they thought would be fair and just to pharmacists. The history of the present position of the supply of medical attendance and medicines to friendly societies was such that it had placed friendly societies, medical practitioners, and pharmacists in a relation which made it quite undesirable that they should be called upon to negotiate directly as to the conditions to be laid down.

After some discussion, Mr. C. F. Henry suggested that a delegate be sent from the Association to join the Scottish deputation to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr. Hill explained that he was not sure whether the Scottish deputation would be received after that which had already waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer from the Society, but each Association should have a delegate in readiness.

Ultimately it was agreed that Mr. Stephenson, failing whom Mr. Muir, be the delegate of the Association on the Scottish deputation, if it was arranged that the meeting endorse the policy of the Pharmaceutical Society in regard to the amendments on the Bill as set forth in the circular issued by the North British Executive, and that while fully endorsing and supporting the action of the Society, they desired to express to that body and to pharmacists generally the great desirableness of working hand in hand with the medical profession and to enlist their sympathy in the matter.

COMING EVENTS.

This section of the "C. & D." is reserved for advance notices of meetings or other events which are sent to the Editor by Wednesday of the week before the meetings, etc., occur.

Monday, June 12.

Society of Chemical Industry, London Section, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 8 P.M. Mr. H. De Moseenthal, "Observations on Cotton and Nitrated Cotton" (Part III.); Messrs. A. Philip and T. Stenhouse on "Methods of Testing Inflammable Gas and Vapour-detectors"; Messrs. A. Philip and L. G. Steele on "A New Form of Automatic Detector of Inflammable Gases and Vapours."

Wednesday, June 14.

Chemical Society, Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, London, W., at 8 P.M. Faraday lecture by Professor Theodore W. Richards on "The Fundamental Properties of the Elements."

Portsmouth Pharmacists' Association, County Club, Kent Road, at 3 P.M. Meeting of pharmacists to discuss the National Insurance Bill.

Thursday, June 15.

Chemical Society, Burlington House, London, W., at 8.30 P.M. The following papers will be communicated: "The Alleged Complexity of Tellurium," by Messrs. A. G. Vernon Harcourt and H. B. Baker; "The Purification and Properties of Acetic Acid," by Messrs. W. R. Bousfield and T. M. Lowry; "Cuprilycolates," by Professor S. U. Pickering.

West Ham Association of Pharmacists, Earham Hall, Forest Gate, London, E., at 3 P.M. Annual summer outing to Chigwell.

Friday, June 16.

Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association, Waverley Station, at 8.37 P.M. Botanical excursion to Musselburgh.

BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE.—The Portsmouth meeting opens on Monday evening, July 24, by a reception at the Town Hall, and the Conference will be held on July 25 and 26, closing on July 27, after which an excursion will be made to the Isle of Wight. A fuller programme was printed in the *C. & D.*, May 20, index folio 741. Tickets to cover the entire programme, 21s., may be had from Mr. T. O. Barlow, Hon. Local Secretary, 2 Palmerston Road, Southsea.

POISONING FATALITIES.

ELEVEN deaths, of which two were by misadventure, have been reported from poisoning since our issue of last week.

Ammonia taken in mistake for medicine caused the death of Jane Peat (82), widow, Nelson.

Carbolic Acid.—At Holbeach, a gardener named George Daniel Bailey (41) poisoned himself with carbolic acid.—Jane Elizabeth Ross (57), widow, Stockton, died from taking carbolic acid with suicidal intent.

Chlorodyne.—A coroner's jury found that Elizabeth Cliff (52), the wife of a retired publican, Gosport, committed suicide through taking this poisonous preparation.

Corrosive-sublimate poisoning caused the suicidal death of Annie Maud Sudworth (20), typist, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.

Laudanum.—Robert Marsh Davies (24), of Pontypridd, ended his life, at Cardiff, by taking this opiate. At the inquest, Mr. S. B. Eason, chemist and druggist, 81 Tudor Road, Cardiff, deposed that he had known deceased by sight for the past twelve months, during which he had supplied him with laudanum on several occasions. He said he wanted the laudanum for sleeplessness. Laudanum was not included in the category of poisons under which such preparations must be put in special bottles, although an attempt had been made to get it so included. The Coroner pointed out that a man could go to a number of chemists and get enough poison not only to kill himself, but other people. What struck him most was the necessity that steps should be

taken to prevent members of the general public from obtaining large quantities of such poison. He was glad pressmen were present, and hoped that they would take notice of the case. A verdict of "suicide while in an unsound state of mind" was returned.—Wm. Hy. Bennett (25), tram conductor, also committed suicide with laudanum.

Potassium Cyanide.—At East Haddon, Northants, the body of Harry Trueman, head gardener, was discovered in a shed with a packet containing two crystals of cyanide of potassium in his waistcoat pocket. Dr. F. Churchman said that the body showed all appearances consistent with poisoning by cyanide of potassium. A big tin containing a large quantity of the poison was found in a cupboard in the potting-shed. This cupboard was always kept locked, the key being in the possession of the deceased. The poison was used for killing wasps.

Salt of Lemon.—At Selly Oak, Birmingham, Ada Caroline Butler was found dead in bed with a glass containing some white powder, five empty packets of salt of lemon, and a small bottle of laudanum by her side. According to the medical evidence some irritant poison, probably salt of lemon, was the cause of death.

Spirit of Salt was used for suicidal purposes by Agnes Goody (18), Shoreditch, London, E.

Kind not Stated.—At Inverkeithing, Isabella Meldrum, or Lamont, aged about seventy, died through taking some liniment in mistake for her medicine.

WILLS PROVEN.

MR. HENRY CLEMENT HALDANE, 54 Lillieshall Road, Clapham, S.W., and of 94 Milton Street, London, E.C., druggists' sundriesman, of the firm of Messrs. Mace & Haldane, left estate of the gross value of 8,437*l.*, with net personalty 7,899*l.*

Indian Perfumery.

DR. G. ROEDER, of Heidelberg, gives in "Der Tropenpflanzer" some interesting reminiscences of his visits to the perfumery districts of India. He first met with the native perfumer in the Delhi bazaar, and describes how the polite shopman insisted on demonstrating the value of his wares by smearing drops of his produce on his customer's hand, to such an extent that his fellow hotel guests steered clear of him for some time afterwards. One of the chief centres of oil-distillation is Jaunpore, where sandalwood and cardamom oils are prepared by distillation in somewhat crude stills. At the Parel chemical-works in Bombay ajowan, clove, dill, patchouli, cubeb, sandalwood, and cajuput oils are made, mainly for sale in India. The "enfleurage" process for the extraction of the finer oils is not available in India for the reasons that animal fats cannot be handled by Hindoos, and, further, the use of pure spirit for technical purposes is not permitted. The finer oils are, however, prepared in three forms—viz., as aromatic waters, as "attars," and as "hair-oils." The first of these are made in the usual way—viz., by distillation in steam—the chief waters manufactured being rose and keora, the latter from *Pandanus odoratissimus*. The "attars" are solutions of oils in sandalwood oil, and are made by steam-distilling mixtures of sandalwood with other products, rose-leaves, jasmin, henna, mimusops-flowers, or champaca-flowers being those most commonly employed. The "hair-oils" are made in a very ingenious manner by mixing the flowers, whose perfume is to be extracted, with sesame-seed and allowing the mixture to stand sixteen days, a new supply of flowers being added each day. The sesame-seed, now saturated with perfume, is expressed in a native mill. For these "hair-oils" the demand is enormous, and in Jaunpore alone there are over fifty factories for their production, and more than that in Ghazipore. In some notes on the Ceylon essential-oil industry Dr. Roeder points out that the manufacture of citronella oil is largely in the hands of natives, and that the product, being usually adulterated with petroleum, is exposed to serious competition with the purer and better Java oils. Three crops of grass are gathered each year in Ceylon. The stills are heated by burning the dried, exhausted grass except in the monsoon season, when wood has to be used. The oil is said to be exported in tins obtained from Germany. At the De Sousa cinnamon-garden there is a large modern European still for the preparation of cinnamon oil.

